

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEAS

EUGENE WEEKLY

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Coming HOME

The long, hard road
to redemption,
p. 14



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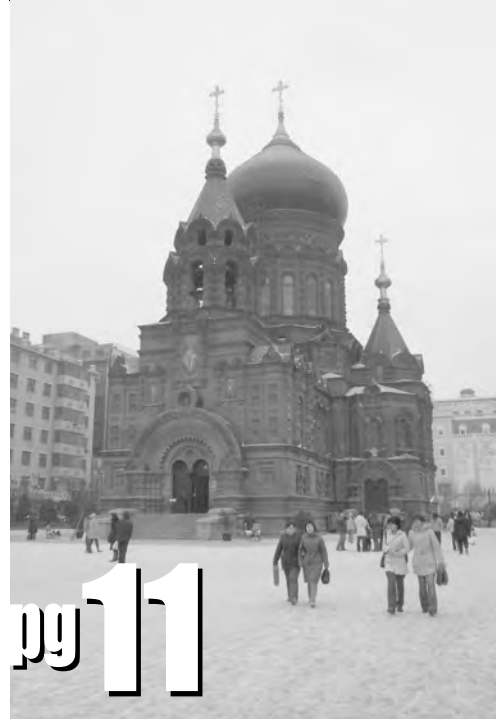
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The Invisible Light

Bringing hope in dark times

Dark days, long and cold nights, trees shedding leaves, lead the way to hibernation: stillness. Nature is in a state of reflection and repose. The dark and cold winter season is punctuated by shimmering lights, warmth of family and friends gatherings during winter holidays. Is it a coincidence that most religions celebrate some of their most important holidays in the winter season? They are in synchronicity in bringing light, which represents life, inner strength and hope in dark times.



In nature, hibernation in the womb of darkness is not barren, but is pregnant with the birth of the sprouting of golden daffodils and multi-colored tulips in the early spring. Maybe in this winter season we should sow seeds for the flowers of trust, love and hope. As Gandhi said, "In the attitude of silence, the soul finds the path in a clearer light, and what is elusive and deceptive resolves itself into crystal clearness." It is a time for repose and reflection: learning from Mother Nature, who renounces her golden leaves to give birth to new leaves and rests in the bitter cold, waiting for rejuvenation. In the outer and inner stillness I contemplate renunciation, reconciliation and rejuvenation:

Renunciation: Gandhi, the peace protagonist, called for renunciation by saying, "There is no limit to renunciation." He was referring to renunciation of selfish desires, unnecessary wants, harmful habits and unhealthy emotions. As human beings, we are the only creatures who can gain control of our desires, feelings and actions. We need strength and skill to acquire possessions and accomplish goals, but it takes even greater inner power to renounce – to give up something, to let go of attachment to what is unwholesome and superfluous. If we put our mind to it, we could choose to renounce an unhealthy habit, give up excess possessions, or even kick out an addiction. Gandhi's renunciation is the symbol of inner strength for me. Ironically, I never realized the depth and breadth of Gandhi's soul power and his renunciate lifestyle for the service to humanity until I moved to the wealthiest country on earth. Gandhi found his inner strength by testing himself on the touchstone of renunciation.

Reconciliation: What I love about winter holidays is the family time – giving and sharing. It is also a time to mend old forgotten relations and heal broken hearts. During the holidays, I miss my mother who lives 12,000 miles away. But I always remember her wise advice: "Forgiving, at times, is difficult, but when practiced it showers with blessings. God loves those who forgive." In today's climate, I find it is important to come together in peace and harmony with forgiveness in our hearts.

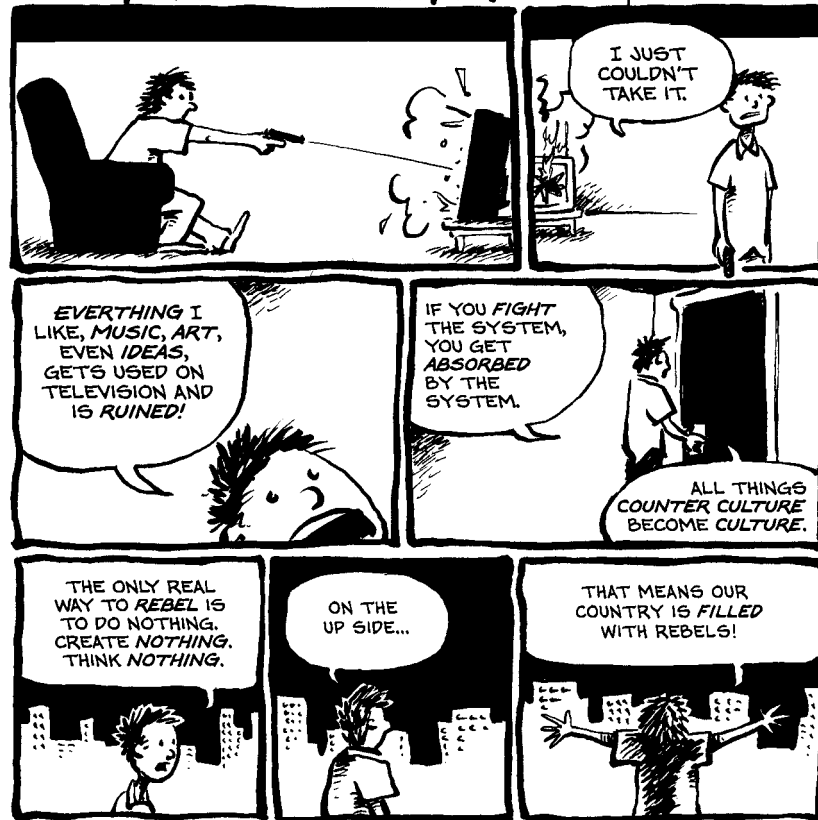
Rejuvenation: The light of the New Year arises from the womb of dark winter and marks a rejuvenation. It is just another day, but it symbolizes a new beginning. Therefore, people make vows, renew old vows, make new resolutions, and reconsider old resolutions. Vows can be seen as binding, but I find them liberating. I had taken a vow as a young girl never to try a drink of alcohol, not knowing that my destiny would take me to a far away Western world where social drinking is a norm. I experience freedom and strength in saying no when offered wine in an enticing crystal, slim-waisted glass. In my simple *no*, I experience willpower and grace.

This holiday season I offer my deepest gratitude to my great teacher in India, whose wisdom always guides me. He emphasizes that inner strength and power is far greater than material strength: *Let not the visible darkness and despair discourage you. The veil of darkness is just a momentary illusion. Search for invisible light and keep alive the flame of hope with trust in new beginnings.*

Veena Howard Rani teaches Religions of India at the UO and LCC. She practices "The Way of Sages" (Santmat). This column is coordinated by Two Rivers Interfaith Ministries (TRIM). see www.interfaiththeeugene.org

TOO MUCH COFFEE MAN

by Shannon Wheeler



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FED WITCH-HUNT

It seems that the good ol' boys (CEOs of the timber, mining, military, oil and agriculture industries) who really run this country have sent their attack dogs (FBI, ATF and Office of Homeland Security) to reap revenge and to intimidate the people's activist movements here in the Pacific Northwest, as well as forest activists involved in Warner Creek, Fall Creek and the Shutdown of the WTO in Seattle in 1999.

The FBI, ATF and Office of Homeland security have subpoenaed local individuals for a grand jury in Eugene convening in March 2006. Publicly, the Feds have stated that the investigation is very narrowly focused on several arson fires in Oregon and Washington that occurred from 1996 to 2001.

Don't be fooled. These Feds will NOT stick to a very narrow focus of information gathering. Their big picture strategy includes gathering as much information as possible on as many left-leaning groups and outspoken individuals in the Pacific Northwest Community as possible.

So, if you are approached by these feds, don't trick yourself into believing that they won't "pump you" for names of anyone you may have worked, lived, loved, drank beer or even held a protest sign with. You are much more likely to be subpoenaed by being cooperative when first approached and realizing too late that you need to refuse to answer subsequent probing questions.

Remember, the feds are here to intimidate the will of good people who stand for true justice and oppose the good ol' boys' version of "just us."

Shannon Wilson
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: For more information, visit www.FBIwitchhunt.com

OPB SNOOKERED

After reading video producer Eric Cain's opinion piece ("Fear of Forestry," 12/8) I am

now more convinced than ever that OPB blew it with their recent pro-logging mockumentary.

The long list of errors and omissions in OPB's pro-logging story is now well-known (see <http://tinyurl.com/bbx4j>). OPB is apparently feeling a bit defensive about the fact that they got snookered by a bunch of pro-logging activists masquerading as concerned community leaders. Why does OPB trust those who profit from forest destruction, rather than those with public interest motivations?

Producer Eric Cain claims that his critics suffer from "fear of forestry." How wrong and how revealing of how the timber industry has molded his assumptions about conservationists! Conservationists do not fear forestry, we believe in

GOOD forestry, while we oppose BAD forestry (not to mention bad journalism that fails to accurately represent the impacts of bad logging and the viewpoints of conservationists).

Our biggest concern with OPB's *Rethinking Forests* video is that OPB missed an important opportunity to tell the story of real "restoration forestry." Our public forests are severely damaged by decades of abuse at the hands of the timber industry that pulled strings in Congress to control the Forest Service. Now that those errors have been exposed, there is a consensus building around a vision for comprehensive restoration of our public forests. New scientific research is revealing the possibility that we can restore habitat, create jobs, and produce some wood products by fixing crumbling logging roads and by carefully thinning small trees in areas previously damaged by clear-cutting and fire suppression.

These new restoration methods are still evolving. They must be continually evaluated and most importantly driven by sound science (see <http://tinyurl.com/cmmz3>). In con-

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trast, OPB's video continued to demonize fire and conservationists while portraying folksy old tree farmers using disproven logging methods (including continued logging of old-growth trees). Logging methods which we already know are likely to cause more harm than good.

Although producer Eric Cain may remain unrepentant, we hope, through the public concern expressed about this video, that OPB has learned important lessons about public responsibility and journalistic ethics. If we are going to rethink forests, let's consider all viewpoints and not blindly trust the timber industry that destroyed our forests. Maybe next time OPB will tell a more balanced story.

Doug Heiken
Eugene

NUDES & BRANCHES

When I saw your Dec. 8 cover of the nude girl covering her body with cut tree branches, I just loved it! Of course, many people think libertarians are conservatives, but I was raised in Hollywood and my parents were nudists, vegetarians and socialists — as was I.

I never saw a doctor until I was pregnant and had never tasted an aspirin. I invited my 15-year-old boyfriend to come to the nudist camp, and he came! I tell all about it in my book *Making Waves: Making History*, which will come out some day, I hope.

Keep up your good work.

Tonie Nathan
Eugene

SHAME ON OPB

Eric Cain, the producer of OPB's documentary *Rethinking the Forests*, claims funding from the USDA (which oversees the Forest Service) did not influence the content of his film, despite its echoing of big timber's "get out the cut" agenda. This bias is nothing new with OPB. Bill Swindells, past-CEO of Willamette Industries — a Portland-based wood products company — chaired the OPB board.

Cain's stated intent for his documentary was to "think a little differently" about our relationships to our forests. Is Cain somehow suggesting that advocating for more logging in our national forests is "thinking differently," as opposed to business as usual?

A truly new viewpoint would be to question the efficacy and true costs of logging, mining, drilling and grazing on our public lands. OPB has never even mentioned the issue, or the absence of an honest and full-cost accounting of extraction; nor investigated what ecological and economic alternatives are currently available; nor reported the fact that half the trees cut in the Pacific Northwest are exported unfinished, along with American jobs.

No, instead Cain has produced another

piece of industry propaganda designed to promote its utilitarian view of the forests (merely as money to be made), and dishonestly called it a documentary. Shame on OPB. As a consequence, I am no longer able to support OPB, as it is increasingly turning into Oregon's CORPORATE Broadcasting.

Cain wonders what "we actually want" in our forests. It's simple: We want rich soil, clean air and pure water. We want wild rivers and streams, thriving fish and wildlife. We want to save what's left of our forests and recover what's been lost. That's all we want. Nothing more and nothing less.

Tim Hermach
Native Forest Council
Eugene

TORTURE TRAINING

What is especially troubling to me about the issue of our torturing prisoners in the "war on terrorism" is the belief by most that this is the first administration which has indulged in such despicable behavior. In fact, we have not been that different from our "enemies" for some time now.

Since 1946, first in Panama and now in Fort Benning, Ga., we have trained and continue to train military and police officers from across the hemisphere in many of the same "coercive interrogation" techniques that have shown up at Guantánamo and Abu Ghraib. Our Latin American neighbors know well of our ruthless techniques, which they experienced firsthand throughout the 1970s and 1980s in Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Argentina and other Latin countries.

We need to wake up from our collective amnesia and demand that this barbaric practice be ended once and for all. There is never any moral excuse to start down the road of torture. It is a slippery slope we have been sliding down for too long, and this moral sickness is eating away at the soul of our nation.

Christopher Michaels
Eugene

FASCIST AMERICA

I guess inanity beats evil, at least as far as our feckless leaders are concerned. George "What, me worry?" Bush has an approval rating of 37 percent in the latest polls; Dick "Dark Side" Cheney's is at 27 percent.

That would lead you to think that roughly two-thirds to three-fourths of the American people know what's what, but you would be wrong. Democrats and Congress, as an institution, don't score any better.

Someone once told me that when fascism comes to the U.S., it will come sugarcoated. I think she was right. In the midst of endless war and the federal government's abandonment of the poor, the consumer society marches on regardless. They have no idea.

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Mother of All Trials

Iraqis watch Saddam in court.

Riverbend is a 26-year-old Iraqi woman who has been making blog entries since August 2003 under a pseudonym for her protection. This excerpt (see an earlier one last week) is from a Dec. 5 post to her blog, Baghdad Burning: riverbendblog.blogspot.com

I didn't get to see the beginning of the trial today. We were gathered in the kitchen after a brief rodent scare, trying to determine where the mouse had come from, when I was attracted by the sound of yelling coming from the living room.

My cousin was standing in front of the television adjusting the volume and there was a lot of bellowing coming from the court. That was nearly the beginning — the defense lawyers were pulling out of the trial because apparently, Ramsey Clark wasn't allowed to speak in English — something to do with the sovereignty of the court or trial and the impropriety of speaking in a foreign language (slightly ironic considering the whole country is under foreign occupation). The lawyers were back later, although I didn't see that either.

I really began watching when they brought on the first witness, who was also the first plaintiff. He talked about the whole Dujail situation and his account was emotional and detailed. The details were intriguing considering he was only 15 years old at the time. The problem with his whole account is that so much of it is hearsay. He heard from someone that something happened to someone else, etc. Now, I'm not a lawyer, but I'm a fan of "The Practice" and if watching Dylan McDermott has taught me anything, it's that hearsay is not acceptable evidence.

The second witness was more to the point, but he was 10 when everything happened and that didn't help his case. In the end, when the judge asked him who he was making a complaint against, he said he wasn't making a complaint against anyone. Then he changed his mind and said he was complaining against one of the accused ... Then he added his complaint was against anyone convicted of the crime ... And finally it was a complaint against "All Ba'athists at the time."

Couldn't they find more credible witnesses? They were 15 and 10 at the time. It just doesn't make sense.

At one point, the defense lawyers wanted to leave the trial yet again because apparently some security guard or police officer was threatening them from afar — making threatening gestures, etc. The judge requested that the security person be pulled out of the court — but not before hell broke loose. Saddam began yelling something, the defense lawyers were making accusations and Barazan got up and began shouting at the person we couldn't see.

The court was a mess. There was a lot of yelling, screaming, sermonizing, ranting, accusing, etc. I felt bad for the judge. He really seemed to be trying hard to control the situation, but everyone kept interrupting him, and giving him orders. He's polite and patient, and he'd make a good divorce judge, but I don't think he's strong enough for the court. He just doesn't have the power to keep the court in its place.

It wasn't really like a trial. It reminded me of what we call a "fossil," which is what tribal sheikhs arrange when two tribes are out of sorts with one another. The heads of the tribes are brought together along with the principal family members involved in the rift and after some yelling, accusations and angry words, they try to sort things out. That's what it felt like today. They kept interrupting each other and there was even some spitting at one point. It was both frustrating and embarrassing, and very unprofessional.

One thing that struck me about what the witnesses were saying: After the assassination attempt in Dujail, so much of what later unfolded is exactly what is happening now in parts of Iraq. They talked about how a complete orchard was demolished because the Mukhabarat [Iraqi Intelligence Service] thought people were hiding there and because they thought someone had tried to shoot Saddam from that area. That was like last year when the Americans razed orchards in Diyala because they believed insurgents were hiding there. Then they talked about the mass detentions — men, women and children — and it's almost as if they are describing present-day Ramadi or Falloojah. The descriptions of cramped detention spaces and torture are almost exactly the testimonies of prisoners in Abu Ghraib.

It makes one wonder when Bush, Rumsfeld, Cheney and the rest will have their day, as the accused, in court.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

crimes are being done in our names. My fear is that the hatred we are evoking will mire and ensnare my grandchildren's generation. There's no doubt the costs we are passing on to them will.

The bad news and the good news is that, as Walt Kelly's *Pogo* noted 50 years ago, we are our own worst enemy, and that, really, we are our only enemy.

On that cheery note, I wish you all the best in this season of the rebirth of the light.

Paul Prenskey
Eugene

POPULATION SOLUTION

W. Joe Lyon (12/8) is concerned that Dan Robinson (11/23) suggests population should be lowered, but doesn't state how. Lyon then goes on to list some of the more odious means by which one might accomplish this goal, including forced abortion, exterminating the elderly and establishing mandatory reeducation camps.

There are many ways to halt the burgeoning of human numbers that do not evoke the spirit of Draco. One simple step would be to eliminate the tax credits for couples who have more than two kids. Another would be standard educational methods — schools and mass media — aimed at informing people of the illogic of believing that somehow we can continue to grow forever.

But in the end, it doesn't matter how it's done. Physical laws aren't somehow different when humanity's mindless increase is concerned; there is only so much matter in the

universe that can be converted into humans and the systems necessary to support them.

Thus, if we don't somehow stop population growth ourselves, nature will eventually do it for us. And her techniques — starvation, environmental collapse, mutant plagues running rampant through dense populations — will make those put forth by Lyon look like a walk in the park.

Bill Smee
Springfield

FUTILITY OF WAR

So, now it's beginning to look like we started a war based not only on false information (no WMD), but lies manufactured by a suspect under duress (i.e. tortured) (*R-G*, 12/9). We then send in our troops to chase down this illusion, they kill and get killed, which creates deep resentment in Iraq and beyond, more terrorists, and greater homeland insecurity for us. Meanwhile, the drums of war and rhetoric continue, benefiting the armaments industry and their related cronies. War is insane.

How about breaking the cycle by increased foreign exchange (and I'm not talking rendition), paying our dues and supporting the U.N., building coalitions, weaning off oil, and in general, stop being the bully of the world? Yes, it will take time and the establishment of trust, but what have we to lose that is not already slipping away?

Jerry Kendall
Eugene

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WARTIME SCRIPTURE

Blessed are the peace makers this Christmas season. What would Jesus do if he were here? Would Jesus support a president who cuts funds from the food stamps program which helps to feed the poor families? The Bible reads, "The righteous is concerned for the rights of the poor; the wicked does not understand such concern." (Proverb, 29:7). Would Jesus approve of a government that slashes funding for social services and education while giving billions in tax breaks to large corporations?

I have worked in social services for more than 10 years and have never seen such an unimaginable fiscal crisis. The quality of care suffers when Social Service agencies are faced with job losses, vehicle reductions, and wage freezes. The Bible reads, "Open your mouth for the dumb, for the rights of all the unfortunate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy" (Proverbs, 29:7).

Would Jesus support the war on Iraq? Our country has spent more than \$225 billion dollars on this war. The war has caused the deaths of more than 2,100 Americans and 30,000 Iraqis.

Christians, come unite in protests and help stop the war! Is Jesus not the Prince of Peace and Defender of the Poor? Please ask the government to bring our sons and daughters home. Call your legislators and demand reprioritization of federal and state monies to help the poor and needy! Collectively the Christian voice is powerful and the U.S. Congress will listen.

Steve Brown
Eugene

FREE SAYS THANKS

I've read *EW* with quite a bit of interest the last few weeks. I was honored to see that for the fifth year in a row I was mentioned in the "Best of Eugene" issue. I was touched that I was voted Best Activist.

There are a number of people who are upset by that. I'm used to not being liked by

some people and I've been called every name and combination thereof. It's no skin off my back.

I hadn't planned on writing a letter about any of this. I wasn't sure what to write. Then something truly touched my heart. It was more than just being voted number one. It's people I don't even know writing in to stand up for me.

Thank you, *EW* readers, from the depths of my heart. Thanks for not forgetting me. Thanks for treating me like a human being.

Jeff "Free" Luers
Oregon State Penitentiary, Salem

COUNTY CAN HELP

With recent headlines warning that Lane County Government may be falling upon hard times, there is however a glimmer of hope on the horizon. The National Association of Counties (NACo), of which Lane County is a member, has established a Prescription Drug Discount Card (PDDC) program which is designed to help reduce the cost of prescription drugs for citizens without health care within participating counties.

According to NACo, the program provides an overall average savings of 19 percent, and continues to grow with more than 400 other counties expressing interest. Rob Rockstroh, director of Lane County's Health and Human Services, confirmed the county is currently exploring the possibility of offering this program to its citizens. He stated that the PDDC program represents an opportunity to provide a service directly to the people at no cost, with no age requirements or forms to fill out for the participant, no cost to the county for administering the program, and a national network of 57,000 pharmacies that accept the card.

Lane County can demonstrate positive leadership by implementing programs, such as the PDDC, which can solve serious and costly problems — at no cost to the taxpayer. I would like to encourage the county to launch this program as quickly as possible.

Bill Fleenor
Mapleton



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• Freezing rain, traffic jams, cruising endlessly looking for parking spaces, no real daylight to speak of, polluted air, high electric bills, hacking coughs, awkward moments at Holiday Market when you can't remember someone's name. It must be the holy days, observed by skeptics and agnostics along with the religiously endowed of several faiths. It's the time of year when tradition, convention, materialism, politics and emotions overrun rationality. It's as though some invisible matrix of expectations is superimposed upon us all, based on numbers on the wall. We might fight the holidays, reject them, go along with them, or embrace them with tears and laughter. It's all part of an ancient rhythm of darkness and light, an enigmatic and inescapable element of the human experience. And despite the chaos and insanity, the holidays can be more full of wonder than any lingering June day. We wish you all as much loving warmth, music, good humor and tasty treats as you can absorb on these cold, gray days. And if you are feeling gloomy, remember that the days will only get brighter from here.

• Bush has admitted to authorizing spying on American citizens without due process, and he intends to keep doing it, claiming America is at war and Congress gave him the power to pursue terrorists "by all means necessary." Well, the war is of Bush's own making, and he was *not* given permission to violate the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution on U.S. soil. For one thing, it's not necessary — we have a court system that's been used to authorize thousands of secret surveillance operations, even on very short notice. In addition, the Fourth Amendment is there to counter excessive zeal and downright idiocy by our government. We heard this week about a Dartmouth senior who was visited in his home and grilled by the FBI because he had ordered a library copy of Mao Tse-Tung's classic *The Little Red Book* for a research paper he was doing on communism. The eavesdropping on the student's library records was apparently not done with a warrant. This is a clear example of why our founding fathers wanted judges involved. Let's refresh our memory on the Fourth Amendment: *The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.* Bush's latest violation of our constitutional rights is just one more crime worthy of impeachment.

• We enjoyed Eugene City Club's first of two luncheons Friday in which local folks were asked "If you could give the community any gift, what would it be?" It was an upbeat and lighthearted affair, full of goodwill and the holiday spirit. Only one Grinch was there to raise eyebrows. Former Mayor Brian Obie took the occasion to ungraciously castigate local elected officials of the progressive persuasion, offering them lumps of coal for casting votes he found offensive. Sounds like our grumpy ex-mayor could use some hugs and chocolate this holiday season. Part two of the series is at 11:50 am Friday at the Hilton, and even non-members are invited to show up and offer their gifts to Eugene. Bring a can of food for FOOD for Lane County. See www.cityclubofeugene.org for details.

• We ran our big cover story on Kris Millegan and the lawsuit against his Trine Day publishing company back on Aug. 25 and the *R-G* did their version of the story Sunday, including quotes from transcripts now online at www.expensiblelite.com. What's odd, however, is that only about 500 words of the *R-G's* 1,500-word-long story ended up on the website for historians and the rest of the world to see. Missing were a lot of the gritty details of the story, including accusations of illegal acts and Special Forces Association intimidation. Was the missing information another sinister secret cover-up, or just a web glitch? Just the latter, according to Web Content Editor John Heasley, who tells us the "errant editorial subhead markup" has been fixed.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com



Kris Millegan



news Briefs



Ken Hamm

LTD'S LEGAL LEGACY

Facing a barrage of complaints from employees, poor reviews from community members and an article in *EW* outlining the case against him, LTD General Manager Ken Hamm announced his resignation on Dec. 2 (see cover story, 12/1, and news story this week, p. 12). The criticisms against Hamm focused on declining employee morale and a perceived over-emphasis on long-term projects to the detriment of LTD's day-to-day service, but little attention has been given to the accusations of illegal activity that plagued Hamm's tenure. Twice in the past three years, officials have found some evidence that Hamm behaved inappropriately in his capacity as general manager.

In October 2002, Former LTD Human Resources Manager David Dickman filed a complaint against Hamm with the Government Standards and Practices Commission (GSPC), alleging, among

other things, that Hamm had misused public funds for golf outings. The GSPC found substantial evidence that Hamm had violated government standards but acquitted him after a semi-judicial hearing.

Hamm fired Dickman in April 2003. Dickman filed a complaint with the Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) Civil Rights Division alleging, among other things, that Hamm had retaliated against him for filing the original complaint with the GSPC. Retaliation against an employee is illegal under Oregon law. A BOLI investigator found substantial evidence that Hamm had retaliated against Dickman, and Dickman filed a lawsuit against LTD, Hamm and Assistant General Manager Mark Pangborn. In February 2005 the defendants settled the case with Dickman, agreeing to pay him \$150,000.

Dickman then obtained a copy of his personnel file. The file contains a memo from Hamm, dated March 20, 2003, that indicates that the board had met in executive session the previous day to discuss Dickman's job performance, a meeting that ostensibly contributed to Dickman's termination. But according to former LTD board secretary Pat Hocken's notes, the board never met on March 19, 2003; the meeting was cancelled for lack of a quorum.

Dickman took the case to the Springfield police, accusing Hamm of forgery. According to the police report, Hamm first told Sgt. Richard Putnam that he accidentally mis-dated the memo, which may have been written after a board meeting on April 7, 2003. When Putnam pointed out a discrepancy in that explanation, Hamm revised his story, saying that the memo actually referred to a meeting on March 10, 2003. Putnam requested that the report "be forwarded to the district attorney's office for review and possible prosecution." The DA, however, declined to prosecute the case.

All of the accusations against Hamm originated with Dickman, and Hamm was not held liable in any of the cases.

— Kera Abraham

Bill Wood takes a painful plunge.

WAYNE ECKERTSON



NUTRIA POOP SINKS SKATER

Avid ice skater Bill Wood blames nutria feces or some such organic matter for weakening ice more than an inch thick that would normally bear his weight. Wood broke through the ice on a shallow pond near Stewart Road Saturday morning and was rescued by a friend, Wayne Eckertson, who pulled him out after pausing to take a few photos.

"I have ice skated all of my life and I like any opportunity to skate new ice," says Wood, who had been watching the ice build-up on the pond for about 10 days and had been waiting for an opportunity to skate. "I knew the thickness of the ice on Friday and monitored the temperature at home that night. On Saturday morning I saw that we had had prolonged overnight temperatures in the lower 20s. I also knew that warmer weather was on its way and this might be my last chance to skate that pond."

He brought along a rope and small tire, and a friend, just in case.

"The water was not especially deep where I went in, but Wayne threw me a rope anyway and took some pictures. I don't mind icy water unless it is in a large river or in deep water far from shore. In this case the ice was substantial enough to cause hemorrhaging in my leg, and to bruise and sprain my ribs as I fell through it."

"The normal rule is that one inch of ice will safely hold a person," he says. "I am certain that impurities in the pond water, perhaps from nutria, contributed to the low ice strength."

Wood has been planning to skate at the Hôtel de Ville in Paris early next month and says, "I hope that my ribs heal enough by then." — *TJT*

PEACEMAKERS STILL MISSING

Eugene-area people are joining with organizations around the world this holiday season in response to four members of the Christian Peacemaker Team (CPT) who are missing after being kidnapped in Baghdad. The four were taken Nov. 26 by a militant group that has twice threatened to execute them if all U.S. detainees in Iraq were not

released.

The deadlines have passed, "and now there is silence," says Peg Morton of Eugene. "There has been no word."

The four are Tom Fox, 54, from Virginia; Norman Kember, 74, from London; James Lney, 41, from Toronto; and Harmeet Singh Sooden, 32, from Montreal.

Morton says the CPT has been a presence in Iraq since six months before the U.S.-led invasion, and has been monitoring and documenting detainee abuse along with legal and human rights issues.

"The four men are not forgotten," says Morton, "nor are the thousands of detainees in Iraq and elsewhere who suffer abuse and from the lack of basic human and legal rights, nor the Iraqi people who suffer daily from violence and deprivation. We pray for their release and a resolution to the tragic circumstances in Iraq that throw a large shadow over the world."

Matt Chandler of Springfield has served in the Middle East with CPT and has been giving talks about the organization and showing slides. For more information, call Morton at 342-2914.

GREENS JOIN IN GOV RACE

Lane County Commissioner Peter Sorenson made it official last week, joining incumbent Ted Kulongoski in filing for the May 16 Democratic primary for governor in 2006. Sen. Vicki Walker and former Gov. John Kitzhaber are still considering running on the Democratic ticket. On the Republican ballot so far are Kevin Mannix, William Spidal and David Beem. The deadline for filing for the primary is March 7.

The Pacific Green Party (PGP) is seeing its first contested gubernatorial nomination in the party's history. The candidates are forest activist Joe Keating and socially responsible investment pioneer Ed Winslow. The PGP plans a nominating convention March 11 in Corvallis.

"The Dems primary will be interesting, especially if Kitz gets into it, but unfortunately, Sorenson won't survive either way," says Blair Bobier of the PGP. "The primaries

are a good indication of why we need instant runoff voting. Under the current system, the progressives could split the primary vote and either of the Big K's could win. Regardless, the Dems won't have a progressive candidate. The PGP will."



Joe Keating



Ed Winslow

Sorenson, campaigning as "A Real Democrat for a Change," announced his candidacy for governor in January 2005, and since then has traveled more than 12,000 miles throughout the state.

"The current gover-

nor has done nothing to alleviate the suffering that I've seen during the 11 months I've been working on this campaign," Sorenson says. "Worse yet, he has no plans and, really, no aspiration to do things differently. Oregon needs to put more public money into education and health care. Oregon needs protection for our most vulnerable citizens and for protection of equal rights for all. Oregon needs a sustainable and prosperous economy. Oregon needs tax reform."

Incumbent Phil Barnhart has filed for reelection to the 11th House District, as have incumbents Terry Beyer in the 12th District and Debi Farr in the 14th. So far, Farr will face either Rich Cunningham or Chris Edwards in the general election. Nancy Nathanson is the only candidate who has filed for the 13th House District.

In Senate primary races so far, Jim Torrey has filed for District 7, and incumbents Bill Morrisette and Floyd Prozanski have filed for Districts 6 and 4. — *TJT*

SALVATION DOOMED

Cottage Grove is about to lose one of its two thrift stores unless the 1,500 local residents who have signed a petition can persuade The Salvation Army to hold off on closing its store next to Bi-Mart. The local Goodwill store, with its higher prices, plans to stay in business.

The Salvation Army pays nearly \$4,000 a month in rent and is losing money each month, says Marla Miller of Save Our Salvation Army Store (SOS). But Miller says cheaper options are available elsewhere in town. She says at least two commercial properties with more space are available for purchase in the range of \$225,000 to \$250,000. With a small down payment on the cheaper property, Miller figures the monthly mortgage payment would be \$1,313 based on a 30-year loan at a 5.76 percent interest rate.

SOS members plan to picket The Salvation Army store in Eugene this week and have sent letters voicing their concerns to the divisional commander of charity. They heard back: "While financial realities make it impossible for us to maintain the store at this time, we certainly hope to return to Cottage Grove in the future."

Miller says the organization does not appear to be interested in looking at options. The store has seven employees who hope to be offered jobs at other Salvation Army sites. — *TJT*

HOMELESS PRIORITIES

Should the city of Eugene focus on helping those at risk of becoming homeless or those already out in the cold? That's the question that the City Council struggled with at a recent meeting concerning a city initiative to address the homeless problem.

Councilor Bonny Bettman said that the city needs to concentrate on helping the currently homeless. "There are people living

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

JILL WINANS

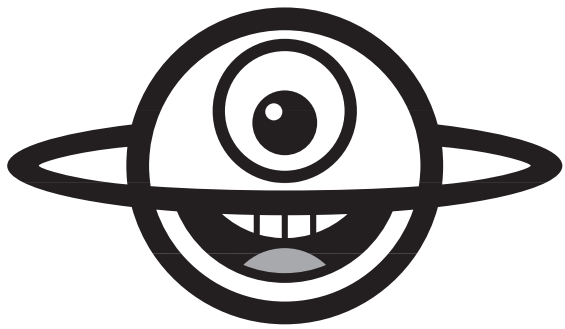
Fed up with hot weather and the rat race, Southern California native Jill Winans headed north 13 years ago. "I wanted to go where it always rains," she says. "I came here and opened a boarding kennel for cats." In the 10 years she operated her business, the CatSpa, Winans became increasingly involved in animal rescue. "Greenhill needed a place for victims of domestic violence to leave their cats," she says. "I had as many as 15 at a time." As a board member of the Stray Cat Alliance, she organized an adopt-a-thon in 2003 and brought the Oregon Neutermobile to town for two months in '04. "We altered 611 dogs and cats," she notes. "But we estimate 40,000 stray animals in Lane County." Winans and two fellow cat fanciers started a new non-profit, the Willamette Animal Guild, dedicated to raising funds for a full-time, low-cost spay-and-neuter clinic in Lane County. In April this year, WAG opened Pick of the Litter, a consignment shop at 329 W 4th Ave., run by volunteers and open 10:30 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Saturday. In the photo, Winans holds Silk, the shop cat, available for adoption but living with Winans in the meantime.



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David Letterman

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news Briefs

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outside in 30 degree weather in the Oregon rain," she said. She said the street homeless live "without the dignity of a bathroom."

"At this time we have an acute problem that needs to be addressed," Bettman said. The city's current strategy of building affordable housing "doesn't really focus on that problem."

"There's a need for tax-supported shelters," Councilor Betty Taylor said.

Councilor David Kelly said that in the past the city has focused more on people at risk of becoming homeless rather than the currently homeless. He said it's "very important" that the city balance its effort.

"It is cheaper to keep people in a house than to start all over again," said Councilor Andrea Ortiz, but "there is an acute problem out there."

Besides a city shelter, councilors also discussed other ideas to help the homeless. Taylor said the city should pass a living wage ordinance, provide loans for security deposits, help with utility bills and examine homeless health care issues.

Kelly said Portland has implemented a program called "Real Change Not Spare Change" that allows people to give vouchers for food and shelter to panhandlers.

Bettman said that was a "great idea," and

the vouchers should also include bus rides. Bettman said the city should consider again trying to pass a utility tax to fund homeless services.

Voters rejected a utility tax for low income housing programs a decade ago amid concerns that it would unfairly tax essential heat and light used by the poor. — Alan Pittman



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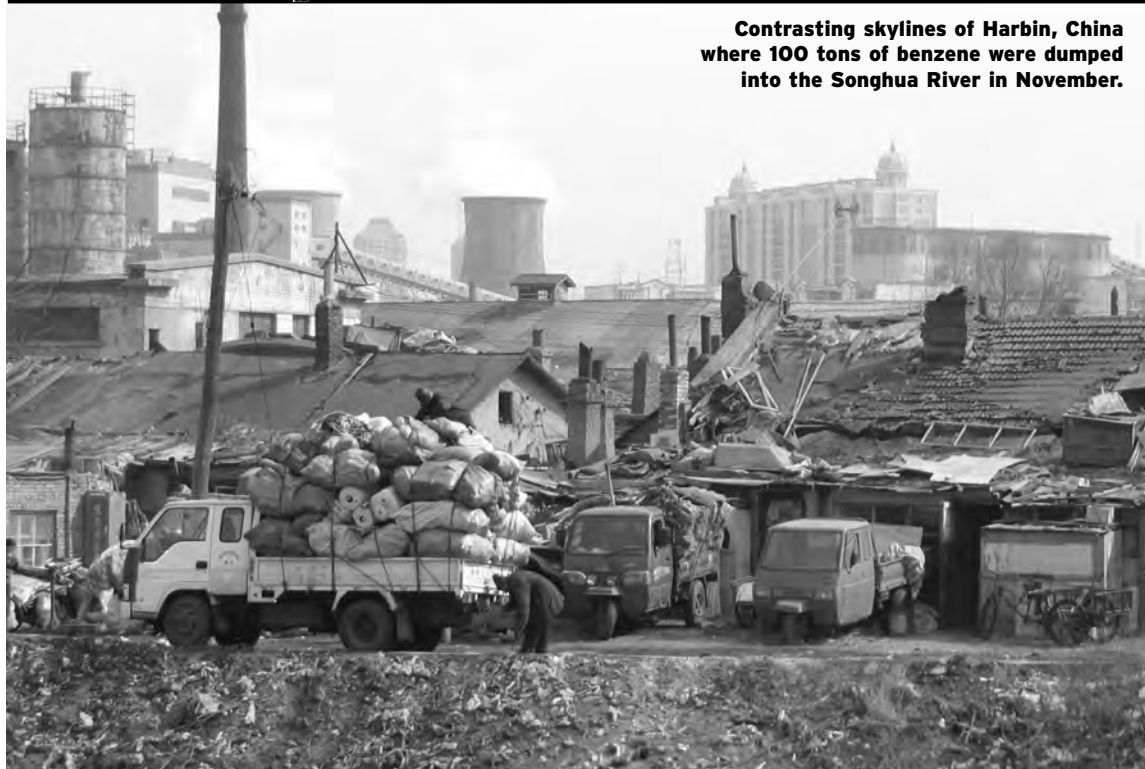
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Contrasting skylines of Harbin, China where 100 tons of benzene were dumped into the Songhua River in November.

Harbin's Aftermath

Reticence, resignation and resilience follow toxin spill in China.

Harbin, China, Dec. 12 — One month out of the worst reported toxin spill in China's history, I'm still trying to understand the overall response of citizens and government leaders. Reticence? Resignation? Resilience? Probably some of each.

On Nov. 13, an explosion at a government-owned Petro China chemical plant in Jilin City dumped about 100 tons of benzene — a colorless, odorless and mostly tasteless carcinogenic chemical — into the Songhua River, the primary water source for Chicago-sized Harbin, a metropolitan population of approximately 8 million, located 120 miles downriver. Fortunately, the attempted cover-up failed and 10 days later (12 hours before the 60-mile length toxin slick arrived in Harbin), the public was warned. Water was shut off for one week, causing a citywide hoarding of water — from bottled water on supermarket shelves to buckets drawn from wells. Although this environmental disaster — a disaster by Western standards — was widely reported in the international media over a two-week period (to the amazement of the Chinese), the spill was a one-week story here and is now, mostly, yesterday's news.

Most of the benzene has continued its journey to Russia via the Amur River, so it's now been relegated to "their [Russia's] problem." However, unknown quantities of the toxin deposited in the bottom of the iced-over Songhua River and will not re-surface until July when the water reaches evaporation-conducive temperatures of 60-something degrees Fahrenheit. Many speculate it will find its way into the water tables, plant life, and eventually into animals (and humans). But, the average Harbiner has moved on, because the wrong-doers were punished, there's not a lot a citizen can do, and in the context of this generation's history, it's not that big of a deal.

President Hu Jintao's and Premier Wen Jiabao's first response was to promise citizens that there would be accountability and that the wrong-doers would face severe pun-

ishment. Punishment in China is swift, highly personal, and when politically necessary, very public. Fact: In China, you don't want to be anywhere near the levers of a bad outcome.

Within one week of the public announcement, the head of the State Environmental Protection Agency resigned, with newspapers covering his obituary (degrees earned, party offices held, etc.) and a captioned photo stating, "Minister taking blame for the river pollution." The chemical plant's general manager, also a government-level minister, resigned and the deputy mayor of Jilin City was found dead in his home, presumably by suicide. Then, the flow of public apologies from plant personnel and municipal officials commenced.

In China, formal apologies are real and



Stephen Barnes

helden to economic interests than to health and aesthetic. Although there are reports in the international press of hundreds or even thousands of environmental protests annually, for the most part these are out of view to the average Chinese.

The information gap, or lack thereof, only explains part of the relatively slow response to environmental challenges in China, or, in the case of Harbin, a quick return to business as usual.

First, it takes a courageous person to step out against the grain, disrupt the *guanxi* (network), and demand change. It's almost "non-Chinese."

One thing a foreign resident in China learns over time is the prevailing attitude of "duty." Although Mao's brand of communism disowned Confucius, the centuries-old concept of "filial duty" served as a perfect philosophical transition to "duty to state." This was no more evident to me than last week, when I showed the film *The Nuremberg Trial* to a group of law students. A majority of the students, although appalled by the results of the German judges' verdicts (sending Jews to

people daily consume unsafe water. More than 30,000 people, mostly children, die annually from diarrhea, due to drinking unclean water. A continued rise in birth defects has proven to be directly linked to water quality.

The government, at all levels, tries to assuage the public by passing environmental laws, which largely mimic statutes from the West. However, environmental impact statements are rarely prepared and local state agencies and courts are more be-

Although a handful of NGOs have taken root in response to China's environmental issues, a generation has gotten used to boiling water, walking outside wearing surgical masks, and other routines to cope with environmental problems. This is certainly the case in north-east China. Clean air and clean water seem so out of reach, that residents are more or less resigned to the current status. Foreign responses to externalities — downriver pollution to Russia or smog in Los Angeles with a causal link to China — will likely have a more determining affect on China's environmental regime than domestic pressure.

Finally, the Songhua River spill has to be viewed in perspective. The day after the spill was announced, 180 miners were killed in a nearby coal mine (as many as 4,000 to 5,000 die annually in coal mine accidents). Three days later, another toxin spill occurred in Southern China, causing the evacuation of a village. These environmental and labor-related episodes are routine, and like a murder in Detroit or Baltimore, is not front page news or cause of major alarm.

There is also the broader historical view as well. During the Sino-Japanese War (1937-45), approximately 10 million died, including 300,000 during the two-month Nanjing Massacre. Somewhere between 16 million and 40 million died of famine during The Great Leap Forward of 1959-61. Nobody knows for sure how many people died during the Cultural Revolution, but millions were affected. The Songhua River spill is a relatively small historical event, and is accepted essentially as a bump in the road in the continuum of development and progress: a necessary and unpreventable event.

The larger and smaller events demonstrate a resilience that is incomprehensible to a foreign observer. "Make the masses' water completely safe, and we must not allow the masses to be short of water!" chants by Harbin's water plant workers ring cheesy or propped propaganda to American ears, but it's genuine in China.

The annual International Snow and Ice Festival is still on schedule. Blocks of ice are being cut out of the Songhua and hauled to parks where laborers and artisans are working 24/7 to build five- to six-story Forbidden City replicas and Lalique-like life-size sculp-

China's own government data estimates that 75 percent of China's urban-flowing rivers are unsafe for drinking or fishing, meaning that approximately 300 million people daily consume unsafe water.

compensation is mostly symbolic. This is certainly the case in environmental law, where plaintiffs routinely claim compensatory damages of \$2 to \$500, in addition to a public apology. A public apology — a voluntary act of losing face — has far more meaning than a huge monetary award. Unfortunately, though, this gives a false assurance to the public that somehow policy is also affected, which in Harbin means, "this probably won't happen again."

Nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, China's own government data estimates that 75 percent of China's urban-flowing rivers are unsafe for drinking or fishing, meaning that approximately 300 million

camps), nonetheless sympathized with and in some cases, endorsed, the judges' obligation to duty.

In terms of human rights, this is chilling. In the context of policy, it illustrates a citizen's duty to accept the government's assurance that an environmental issue has been resolved and to "move on." On the eve of Harbin's resumption of water service, the provincial governor appeared on television and drank a cup of boiled water. This "drink or dare" (or, "drink the Kool-Aid?") was performed out of duty and the citizens responded to the crisis — without protest — out of duty.

Second, there's a sense of resignation to the current state of environmental affairs.

tures. The show will go on.

One year ago I was admonished by several former China residents that "things are not always as they appear." Indeed, they are not, and the recent toxin spill event here in Harbin is but one example where foreigners, and Chinese, are trying to sort out if this is just yesterday's come-and-gone environmental accident or a disaster with long-term concealed effects.

EW

Stephen Barnes of Eugene is a visiting law professor at the Harbin Institute of Technology, where he teaches International Law and Overview of American Law. He returns home in January. He can be reached at barneschina@hotmail.com

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news BY TIM O'ROURKE



An Ama-Zine Workshop

Eugene Public Library workshop
teaches kids how to self-publish.

The idea of creating your own zine has been ping-ponging around your head for months. You've spoken with some of your friends and they love the idea. You feel like if the idea you've been thinking about was out there, the world would be a better place. You think this is a topic everyone cares about, and you are the creative force that can please the public's thirst for this information. It's time you stopped diddling around and got to work self-publishing a zine, chronicling everything there is to know about Zach Morris, AC Slater, Samuel "Screech" Powers and the rest of the "Saved by the Bell" crew.

**'It's for kids
who want to
write or have a
passion about
something they
want to share
with others.'**

Well, hopefully you junior high and high school students out there have a better idea, like a zine dedicated to Conor Oberst's bathing habits or the glaring differences between CheeseNips and Cheez-Its.

Whatever the focus, zines are self-published magazines created by an individual or group, and can focus on any topic your heart desires. Zines aren't just a forum for teens to gush over their favorite star, or an opportunity to publish their creative works: *Bitch*, a feminist magazine responding to pop culture, started as a zine, as did *Bust*, a magazine with the tagline "For women with something to get off their chests."

If you do have an idea for a zine, but don't know how to get started, Eugene Public Library has a crash-course workshop for teens this month, which teaches the basics of

self-publishing.

The workshop is called Zines 101 and is taught by Theresa Molter, a Portland resident who has been creating zines for 10 years and who organizes the Portland Zine Symposium held annually at Portland State University. It's a two-day workshop for junior high and high school youth who want to create a paper-based publication. Anything goes — their fiction, poetry, thoughts on movies, music, obscure '80s TV shows or anything else that strikes the fancy of today's youth culture (which probably doesn't include updates on Screech's latest acting gigs).

"It's for kids who want to write or have a passion about something they want to share with others," says Aimee Meuchel, teen services librarian at the Eugene Public Library. "It's an A to Z on how to publish your own zine."

On the workshop's first day, examples of zines will be analyzed and the basics of these upstart magazines will be discussed, along with possible topics and themes. There will also be some writing the first day. The second day will focus on cover art and the design process, with the pros and cons of paper-based versus computer-based zines discussed. Part of the time will be set aside for students to design and create their own cover, using stencils, stamps, collage and other resources provided by the library.

Over the two-day workshop subjects such as writing, self-editing, where to start, costs involved, layout and page design, cover design, use of art and how to find out what's copyrighted will be discussed.

If after attending this workshop you feel you want more training on the computer side of the zine world, there will be Internet web classes held at the Eugene Public Library in March, which won't focus directly on zines but will provide insight into skills useful for online self-publishing.

Eugene Public Library hosts Zines 101 from 2 to 5 pm Wednesday, Dec. 28 and 2 to 5 pm Thursday, Dec. 29. The workshop is free, but space is limited. Pre-register by calling 682-8316 or visit the Young Adult Desk at the downtown library. **ew**

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LTD Shake-Up

Questions linger at Lane Transit District.

After five years of declining bus services and worsening employee morale during his tenure, Lane Transit District General Manager Ken Hamm announced his resignation on Dec. 2, the day after *EW* published a cover story outlining complaints against him ("Fed Up with Hamm," 12/1). Hamm, who stated in November that he had no intentions of retiring, has led the district since 2000 and may remain on the job through March 3.

On Dec. 9, the LTD board designated Assistant General Manager Mark Pangborn as the interim general manager, effective from Hamm's resignation until the board hires a permanent general manager, probably no earlier than September 2006.

Questions about the terms of Hamm's resignation and Pangborn's appointment as interim general manager remain.

Hamm has asked for a severance pay of about \$117,000, an amount close to his current salary of \$122,300. But the proposal contradicts Hamm's employment contract, which states, "If Mr. Hamm is terminated for cause, or resigns his employment, he shall not be entitled to receive any severance benefit."

Oregon law does not require severance pay, but LTD's attorney, Roger Saydack, said that Hamm's proposed severance pay is "reasonable and realistic."

Some employees disagree. "It's way, way too much," said Jim Stinson, an LTD driver for 12 years. "Getting that many months' pay and guaranteed attorneys' fees is way overboard."

Carol Allred, the spokesperson for the union that represents 230 LTD drivers and mechanics, said that Hamm's contract should make the question of severance pay moot. "The district holds the bargaining unit to our contract," she said. "If [Hamm's] contract does not provide for any severance, then why are we even talking about it?"

Now, as Hamm prepares to leave LTD, the focus shifts to his replacement. In a Dec. 2 press conference, LTD Board Chair Gerry Gaydos announced that board members would appoint an interim general manager to head the district during the search for a permanent general manager. Gaydos indicated that the board would hear from employees and the union before making that appointment.

LTD drivers Dave Barton and Dan Dreier, who had been leaders in the push to force Hamm out, circulated a petition encouraging board members to appoint former LTD General Manager Phyllis Loobey to the interim position. More than 70 percent of LTD's unionized employees signed it, and Barton and Dreier wrote an op-ed in *The Register-Guard* to the same effect. Loobey said she was willing to take on the role.

But on Dec. 9, the board made a surprise announcement: There was no decision to make. Pangborn would be the interim general manager, in compliance with a resolution passed by the board in 2000 which states, "LTD Assistant General Manager Mark Pangborn is designated as the general manager pro tempore for Lane Transit District during the absence or disability of the general manager." Pangborn has worked as an LTD manager for 23 years and currently earns a salary of \$114,000.

Employee reactions to the announcement were mixed. Dan Dreier, an LTD bus driver for 21 years, worries that Pangborn's appointment as interim general manager forebodes more of the same problems that festered under Hamm. "Hamm got into the predicament he did walking hand-in-hand with Mark Pangborn," he said. "The source of the disease that's eating LTD really is Pangborn."

"Most of us are pretty upset with the appointment," added Jim Stinson, an LTD driver for 12 years. "He has a real low opinion of working people. But he's pretty smooth, and he's real good at politics. He can convince people of things that he wants them to believe."


Union leadership is willing to give Pangborn a chance. "The board's appointed him, and it's my job to work with him," Allred said. "I'm hoping that he will be cooperative and at least listen to what we have to say. He's a sharp guy. So we'll see."

Pangborn is slated to lead LTD only until the board hires a permanent general manager, but he may be a candidate for that position. "If he wants the job as permanent general manager, he will position himself over this interim period as a strong candidate," Barton said. "I think we have to give him a chance."

Pangborn, Gaydos and LTD spokesman Andy Vobora declined to comment. **EW**

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Back on Track

Sponsors offers ex-prisoners a shot at redemption.

BY DAVE CONSTANTIN



TODD COOPER

Lakotaka & Kiah Fields

The Reunion

When Lakotaka Fields saw her six-year-old daughter, Kiah, for the first time in two years, it was at an arranged meeting in the center of a shopping mall. "She ran straight to me and screamed my name," remembers Fields. "She couldn't quit touching me. She wanted to hold both hands. She wanted to touch my face. It was like it was really real for her." But nothing was more real for Kiah, or her mother, than the source of their two year separation. "Her biggest question was whether I was going to use drugs again."

Fields, 29, was released from the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in April of this year after serving 22 months on burglary and assault charges stemming from a long, messy battle with methamphetamine addiction. Her reunion with her daughter and her ongoing recovery have, to a large degree, been facilitated by Sponsors, a Eugene-based organization that offers transitional housing and other services to ex-offenders.

Created in 1973 by a nun with an eye on prison abolition, Sponsors is now widely regarded as one of the most effective models in the country for introducing ex-prisoners back into society. Fields' success story through Sponsors may help shed some light on how our society responds to criminality and addiction, and what we have to offer those in need of redemption.

The Fall

On the morning of October 25, 2003, Wayne Hayner awoke with a start. "It was a Saturday morning," recalls Hayner. "I heard a horrible screeching noise, metal on metal. I jumped up out of bed and I grabbed my bathrobe. I went out the utility room door that leads to our garage and I saw my pickup being backed out of the garage." Behind the wheel of the truck sat Lakotaka Fields, deranged from the effects of meth-amphetamines and struggling to get the stolen vehicle into gear so she could make a clean getaway. The truck dragged along the garage door track before finally wrenching free and sending truck and driver careening out of control. Hayner chased Fields into the driveway, yelling frantically for her to stop.

"She made kind of a loopy turn, and the front end of the pickup hit a retaining wall, and it tore the front wheel loose," Hayner said. "At that point I got knocked down, and the wheel on the driver's side went up my left leg and hip. I thought I was hurt really bad." The totaled vehicle eventually came to a stop about a foot from a gas meter in the neighbors yard. Fields fled the scene, but was apprehended within 20 minutes by police. "She was really under the control of the meth-amphetamines at the time and I don't think she had a clue what she was doing," Hayner said.

At Fields' sentencing hearing, Hayner limped into the courtroom and addressed Fields directly, reminding her of the toll her choices were taking on society and imploring her to begin taking responsibility for her actions. "I basically spoke from my heart," he said. His speech elicited stoic remorse from Fields and praise from the judge, who handed down a relatively light sentence of 22 months in prison and an \$18,000 restitution fine. She could have sentenced Fields to 10 or 15 years in prison. Hayner was pleased. "I just don't think lengthy prison time is doing anybody any good," he said.

Similar minds are at work at The Sentencing Project, a national non-profit group that advocates reduced incarceration rates in favor of more effective treatment strategies. According to their statistics, the

number of women in prison has increased at nearly double the rate for men since 1980. "The war on drugs has been the primary factor in this dramatic growth, with a third of women prisoners incarcerated for a drug offense," reads the organization's website.

Jean Daugherty, the Director of the women's program at Sponsors for the past 10 years, emphatically agrees. "The war on drugs is the war on women," she says. "We're locking women up for being addicts. We're in this huge shift right now that criminalizes addiction. And women are judged so much harsher than men." She too advocates a shift to early intervention and treatment, rather than just incarceration.

As the release coordinator at Coffee Creek prison, Ken Hiller has witnessed the steady growth of the prison population first-hand. He attributes the trend to tougher legislation like 1994's Measure 11, which mandates minimum sentencing for certain crimes. To Hiller, the laws seem only to result in longer sentences, over-crowding and reduced treatment options. But Hiller is most concerned with the scores of prisoners who are inevitably released back to the streets each year.

An Oregon law requires ex-prisoners to return to the county of their offense for at least six months immediately following their release. The lucky ones get transferred into programs like Sponsors, which are not only rare, but offer limited availability. Many of the rest are forced to return to situations as bad or worse than those they experienced before prison.

"I deal with all 36 counties and there's pretty much no housing options in all 36 counties," Hiller said. "That's why I rate Lane County fairly high, because they've

consistently been there through all the years I've been doing releases."

While Daugherty coordinates the women's program, Sponsors Director Ron Chase works with the men. A large, deceptively imposing man, Chase, 59, takes a compassionate approach to Sponsors "clients," offering sternness and support where they're needed.

When Chase inherited Sponsors in 1988, the program worked in partnership with the Oregon State Correction Association to house first-time offenders, with no direct, one-on-one supervision. Under Chase's leadership, the program began to shift toward its current profile as a well-supervised support system, with plenty of individual attention. "Everyone here wears two hats," said Chase. "It's a small agency, so people need to do more than one thing."

It helps that all 15 of Chase's employees are also former Sponsors clients who understand the program. Arguably, the most vital job is that of case manager, which represents the heart and soul of Chase's vision for an individualized support network with the emphasis on personal accountability, not authoritarianism.

Veteran case manager Sue Comfort, 45, has been with Sponsors since she completed the 90 day program herself, seven years ago. "Ninety days is not a long time when you've been locked up for years," said Comfort, who understands the challenges ex-prisoners face when they're suddenly confronted again with everyday circumstances most of us take for granted. "The bus system can be very confusing when you've been told when to go to bed, when to wake up, when you can shower, when you can eat. And all of a sudden now you have to just go."

New arrivals at Sponsors get 30 days to find a job, a milestone Sue Comfort contends is almost always achieved by those who are willing to try. Sponsors also withholds fifty percent of each paycheck the clients receive while in the program, returning it to them in a lump sum at "graduation."

"Everybody has to go grocery shopping at least one time," said Comfort. "We try not to do it in the first week or so here because it can

Bradley's life, like Fields, was devastated by drugs and alcohol. But Bradley's addiction robbed her of the possibility of a reunion with her daughter, who died in a car accident in which Bradley was driving intoxicated. Bradley was sent up to Coffee Creek on an involuntary manslaughter charge because of the incident. When she got out, Sponsors allowed her to finally begin dealing with her pain.




"I've been able to take and process this stuff



be overwhelming. We've had women break down in tears trying to pick out toothpaste because there are too many choices."

Another case manager, 36-year-old Dianne Bradley, agrees. When she was released from Coffee Creek in 2003, she was overwhelmed at having to make even simple choices again. "That first day, it was just ridiculous," she said. "I went up to the clothing room, took one look at it, turned around and walked out. I stayed in my prison clothes for two days."

with [Sponsors]," she said. "And now I actually feel comfortable enough to open myself up to them, which is what's kept me from going backwards and getting sick and going back into what I used to know worked best." Bradley now uses her experience as an example to help others. "I go to different treatment places and tell my story," she said. "I figure if I can put that seed in one person's head, and keep one person from doing what I've done and put my family through, then everything I've been through has been worth it to some degree."

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LIVE AND LOCAL



A Sponsors graduation

The Sanctuary

Bradley supports the 11 women who currently live on the top floor of Sponsors' Ferry St. quads in the West University neighborhood. The quads are the penultimate step toward complete independence for Sponsors clients. They are also the organization's newest, and perhaps most ambitious, acquisition.

Last August, the Eugene City Council agreed to subsidize 85 percent of the Ferry St. property purchase. The decision was met with almost unanimous approval, barring an objection from one West University resident who expressed some general concerns about living among so many ex-prisoners. However, Ron Chase estimates that thousands of ex-prisoners currently live in Eugene with no supervision or support, a couple hundred of them in the West University neighborhood alone.

"Most of the people at the Ferry St. property have been out for a long time," explains Chase. At the moment, the quads house no sex offenders, but Chase said they left that option open when they talked to the neighborhood group. Because of insurance reasons, however, convicted arsonists remain the only group unconditionally excluded from all Sponsors facilities.

Fields moved in on October 23, almost two years to the day after the fateful incident in Wayne Hayner's garage. She makes the \$300 monthly rent from a janitorial job she landed with help from Sponsors. The quads offer Fields and the others almost total freedom, with only some basic rules regarding house guests, curfews and, of course, a zero-tolerance policy on drugs or alcohol.

But Sponsors can be strict. If someone cheats on a UA (urinalysis), fails to meet basic expectations, or even gets caught smoking cigarettes inside a Sponsors building, they're immediately kicked out, and may have an hour to pack all their things and leave. But even a major infraction doesn't result in total exclusion. "Even the ones that screw up, we tell them that this is not a burnt bridge," said Comfort. "They can always come home. We've had people through here three or four times." Such was the case with Lakotaka Fields.

The Relapse

The addictive power of meth is legendary, so much so that even a few years in prison aren't enough to break the cycle for many users. Fields was no exception. She ditched Sponsors for, as she put it, "one last hurrah," shortly after arriving the first time. Just two days after her release from Coffee Creek, Fields met up with another meth user, and it wasn't long before she was back to her old habits. "I went on a seven-week run," she said, "and at the end of those seven weeks, I woke up and said, 'I don't want to be doing this anymore.' So I walked into the Lane County Jail and turned myself in. It's pretty scary offering yourself up to be put in handcuffs."

Debra Jonas remembers the day her daughter returned to Sponsors after that initial relapse. Jonas was there holding a box with Fields' belongings, talking to Comfort and Daugherty. To everyone's surprise – and considerable trepidation – up walked Fields. "It seemed to be a time that she broke," Jonas recalled. "She walked in, and I could see her stance. And Jean, the house manager – I'll just never forget this – said, 'you need to come here and you just need to give me a hug, because you broke my heart.' And she just melted, and you could tell she felt safe. You could tell she let go of some piece of anger that very minute."

That anger may have been rooted in a tough childhood. Fields' mom, Jonas, was young when she had her, then married a meth addict. Jonas spent much of her young life bouncing around between foster homes. Her own father died of a heroine overdose. "No one was there for Lakotaka [Fields]," said Jonas. "This is a little girl who basically repeated history with her own daughter — the neglect, the abandonment."

Fields now has a chance to break that cycle. "What I see a year from now is a strong, stable relationship with my daughter," she said. "That's really the most important thing right now is to be a good momma for her."

The Graduation

Six months after her release, Fields sat cross-legged on the floor of the living room at the Sponsors women's facility, listening to her mother and Jean Daugherty tell the story of her relapse. It was her graduation ceremony, and about 15 other women have gathered in a large circle around the room, each at a different point in her own recovery. A framed certificate bearing testimony to Fields' accomplishment moved around the room. As it changed hands, the person holding it said a few words of encouragement to her before passing it down the line.

When it reached Jonas, she grasped the certificate tightly with both hands and talked at length about her daughter's tremendous growth. "Lakotaka is gonna keep on going forward," she said later. "I believe she has the tools in place and the support system in place through so many contacts at Sponsors, that she will go on. I don't believe that she will ever decide that a needle in her neck is ever gonna be the answer for her again."

And as for Field's victim, Wayne Hayner? His leg was back to normal in no time. "I believe one of the reasons I healed so quickly is that I didn't afford myself malice and bitterness and all that," he said. "I think that's the direction to go. We've got to be forgiving and helpful."

Fields' mom has seen what that philosophy has done for her daughter. "The information that Sponsors gave her, and the unconditional love, along with the complete and total accountability, seemed to be a mixture that worked perfectly for Lakotaka," Jonas said. "And I believe it literally saved my daughter's life."

EW

WHAT'S happening



On the 24th and 25th, you can take your pick of musical celebrations: A late-night **Christmas Eve Festival Service** at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection on Saturday, and the Rich Glauber and Friends **First Night of Chanukah Celebration** at Temple Beth Israel on Sunday. Also on Saturday night, the Days Between Café hosts a **Grateful Dead Christmas Party**, a night of music, dancing, food, drinks and more, with all proceeds going to efforts to keep the café open. Doubtless these are just three of the many celebrations taking place for a whole host of holidays, so do enjoy the weekend – even if you just spend it lazing on the couch, moaning about having eaten too much. See Calendar.

It's a quiet week in Eugene 'round Christmas, but before heading elsewhere (or holing up) for the holiday weekend, you could stop by the Eugene Symphony's new tradition, the **Yuletide Celebration**. The "holiday spectacle" stars *Oregonian* columnist Margie Boulé, who's joined on the Hult Center stage not just by the Symphony, but by a host of dancing elves and Santas as well. Traditional Christmas carols and a short musical version of *A Christmas Carol* are featured in the performance. See Thursday, Dec. 22 Calendar.

Next week, things are bound to liven up some – it's almost New Year's Eve, after all! And in honor of that night of carousing and ringing in the New Year, we've got an invitation for you. Send your best New Year's Eve-themed pictures to cal@eugeneweekly.com and we'll pick the best (which may mean one, none or tons!) to run here on the What's Happening page next week. Pictures must be received by 9 am Monday, Dec. 26. Happy holidays!



22 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:38pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFIT 8th Annual Miracle Lights Tour, a guided tour of Eugene and Springfield's lavish outdoor decorations and a benefit for Children's Miracle Network at Sacred Heart, 6:30pm tonight and tomorrow, various locations. Reservations required at 688-0454. \$4, \$3 ages 2-12.

FILM *Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price*, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

GATHERING Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring music from North of the Black Sea, 11:30am; Recorder Quartet, 12:30pm; Sun Bossa Sextet, 1:45pm; Gus Russell Trio, 3:15pm; and Give Us a Shot, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

KIDS Hands-on holiday activities: soap making and personalized wrapping paper, noon-4pm, Science Factory. \$4, members free.

What's Up? Music in Action! for all ages, with Rich Glauber, 4pm, Downtown Library. FREE.

MUSIC The Eugene Symphony presents the first annual Yuletide Celebration, 7:30pm, Hult Center. \$18 & up.

ON THE AIR "Breakfast With Nancy," features Norman Soloman and Scott Bartlett, 6am, KOPT 1600 AM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" discusses schooling and innovative teaching ideas with Cynda Rickert, 8am and 8pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" features "Evolution of the Spirit" with Craig Hamilton, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

PERFORMANCE A Celtic Christmas, a holiday tradition featuring *A Child's Christmas in Wales* read by David Stuart Bull, with music by Linda Danielson and Chico Schwall, 9:30pm tonight and 3pm tomorrow, Café Soriah. Reservations required at 342-4410. \$10.

23 FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:38pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFIT 8th Annual Miracle Lights Tour continues. See Thursday, Dec. 22.

COMEDY AutZen Masters vs. The Hendricks Experience, 8pm tonight and tomorrow, ComedySportz Theater. \$8, \$6 stu.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring music from Olem Alves, 11:30am; Glenn Falkenberg, 12:30pm; Sweet River, 1:45pm; Gypsy Moon, 3:15pm; and Matt Treder Project, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Vigil in honor of Lacey Folenius, 7pm, Coiner Park, Cottage Grove. FREE.

UUCE Singletarians meeting, all single men and women welcome for an evening of activities, conversation and refreshments, 7:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Church. 729-6655. FREE.

KIDS Hands-on holiday activities: rain-stick noisemakers and personalized wrapping paper, noon-4pm, Science Factory. \$4, members free.

MUSIC Robert and Chris Dillon Christmas Special, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

ON THE AIR "Breakfast With Nancy," features a special presentation of a holiday radio play by Hart Williams, 6am, KOPT 1600 AM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" features Ricky Kirschner, author of *Life By Design, Dealing With People You Can't Stand*, 8am and 8pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

PERFORMANCE A Celtic Christmas continues. See Thursday, Dec. 22.

24 SATURDAY

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:39pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

ARTS/VISUAL Christmas Eve open house, 11am-4pm, Eccentricities, 2368 Agate. FREE.

COMEDY AutZen Masters vs. The Hendricks Experience continues. See Friday.

GATHERING Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-4pm, featuring music from Sharon Rogers, 10:30am; Janet Naylor, 11:30am; Elizabeth Cable & Ben Farrell, 12:30pm; Geoffrey Mays & Chad Krebs, 1:30pm; and Americanistan, 3pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

ON THE AIR "Jivin' Johnny's Country Classics" features Hillbilly Holiday, 9am, KRVM 91.9 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION GEARS show and go ride, 10am, meet at Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

SPIRITUAL Christmas Eve service, 5pm; Christmas Eve Festival service with carols, anthems, the Choristers and Resurrection Choir and more, 10:30pm, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. 686-8462.

Candle lighting services, 5:30pm & 8pm, Unity of the Valley. Offerings accepted.

25 SUNDAY

Sunrise 7:47am; Sunset 4:40pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

GATHERINGS Food Not Bombs serves meals, 3pm-5pm, near deer mural at Washington Jefferson Park. FREE.

Grateful Christmas Party with Grateful Dead music, light show, dancing, food, drinks and more, all proceeds help keep the venue open, 8pm, Days Between Café. 342-2084. \$3.

ON THE AIR "The Sunday Morning Hangover" features a guest appearance by Santa Claus, playing his worst Christmas records, 8am, KWVA 88.1 FM.

"The Son of Saturday Gold" features Rockin' Stockin', 11am, KRVM 91.9 FM.

"Sunday at Noon" features "A Celtic Christmas" musical holiday special, noon, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION GEARS show and go ride, 10am, meet at Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

SPIRITUAL Christmas Day service with the Unity Christmas Choir, 11am, Unity of the Valley. Offerings accepted.

First Night of Chankuah Celebration with Rich Glauber and Friends, songs, stories, candlelighting and more, 6pm, Temple Beth Israel. 485-7218. FREE.

26 MONDAY

Sunrise 7:47am; Sunset 4:40pm
Av High 45; Av Low 32

LECTURE "Is Change Possible?" lecture and discussion in ongoing Peace and Sustainability

series, 7pm, McNail-Riley House. 343-8055. FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses road smarts with longtime FedEx driver Kurt Jensen, 8am and 8pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"UO Today" features philanthropist Jordan Schnitzer, 10:30pm tonight, 10:30am & 7:30pm tomorrow and 7:30am Nov. 9, Community TV of Lane County Ch. 29; 8pm Nov. 9, Educational Access Television, Ch. 23.

VIGIL "Women in Black Standing for Peace," 5pm-5:30pm, 7th Avenue & Pearl St. FREE.

27 TUESDAY

Sunrise 7:47am; Sunset 4:41pm
Av High 45; Av Low 32

GATHERING Intercambio: Conversation Circles / Círculos de Conversación, adults and teens practice English and Spanish, with Hora de Diversión for grades 1-6, 6:30pm, Downtown Library. FREE.

KIDS Marvelous Masks for grades 1-6, create a mask that's uniquely you, 2pm, Downtown Library. Tickets available half an hour before program. FREE.

What's Up? Music in Action! with Rich Glauber, all ages, 4pm, Sheldon Library. FREE.

MUSIC 9th Annual *Messiah* Sing-Through, followed by flaming plum pudding, 7pm, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. 686-8462. FREE.

ON THE AIR "Breakfast With Nancy," features Sally Sheklow and Congressman Peter DeFazio, 6am, KOPT 1600 AM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" discusses homeless and runaway teens with Scott Wood of Community Works Home Run program and

Mary Solomon, coordinator for homeless student services at Medford High School, 8am and 8pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"Alternative Radio" features "Human Rights & the War on Terror" with Kenneth Roth, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

"UO Today" continues. See Monday.

VIGIL "Practicing Being Peace," silent meditation, 8:15am-8:45am, Federal Building. FREE.

28 WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:47am; Sunset 4:42pm
Av High 45; Av Low 32

FILM *The Travelers*, locally filmed movie by director Ben Kerns, 6pm today, Baker Downtown Center; 2:45pm tomorrow, Bijou Art Cinema. FREE.

KIDS Hands-on holiday activities: electricity and lasers, noon-4pm, Science Factory. \$4, members free.

Zines 101, two-day winter break project for teens with Theresa Molter of the Portland Zine Symposium, create your own publication, 2pm today and tomorrow, Downtown Library. Register at 682-8316. FREE.

What's Up? Music in Action! with Rich Glauber, all ages, 4pm, Bethel Library. FREE.

ON THE AIR "Breakfast With Nancy," features Bob Jensen and Jim Weaver, 6am, KOPT 1600 AM.

"UO Today" continues. See Monday.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians mystery ski trip, 8 miles. See YMCA board for details.

SPIRITUAL Green Tara Commentary and Practice, Part III, with Tulku Jigme Thrinley Rinpoche, 6:30pm, Nyen-Gyud Samten Choe Tibetan Buddhist Study and Meditation Center. 554-9696. \$10-\$15 sug. don.

VIGIL Faith in Action and Progressive Responses Peace Vigil, 4:30pm-5:30pm, Federal Building. FREE.

29 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:48am; Sunset 4:43pm
Av High 45; Av Low 32

COMEDY The See-Saw Project, inventive physical comedy for the whole family, 2pm, Downtown Library. FREE.

FILM *The Travelers* continues. See Wednesday.

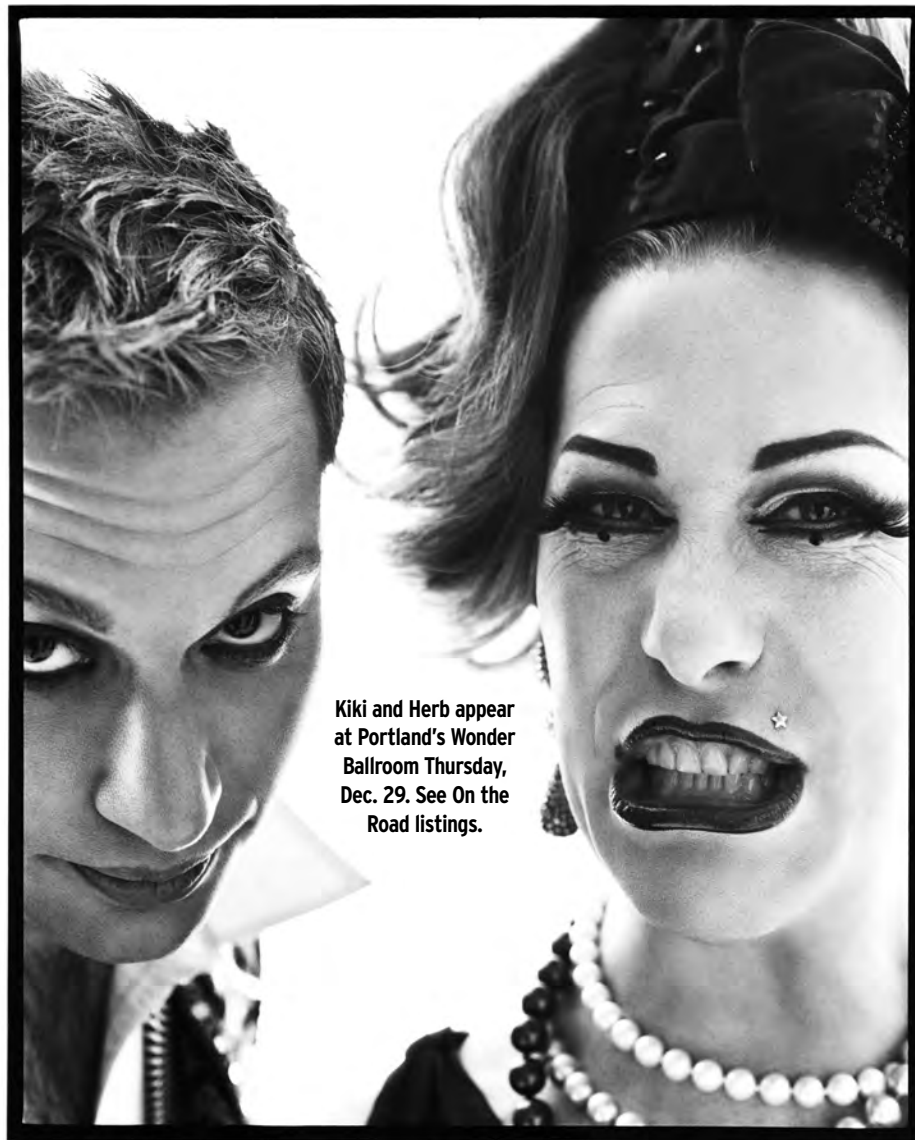
KIDS Hands-on holiday activities: lenses and mirrors, noon-4pm, Science Factory. \$4, members free.

Winter Break/Reptiles Galore for all ages, with Reptile Man and his snakes, lizards, turtles and more, 1pm & 3pm, Springfield Library. FREE.

Zines 101 continues. See Wednesday.

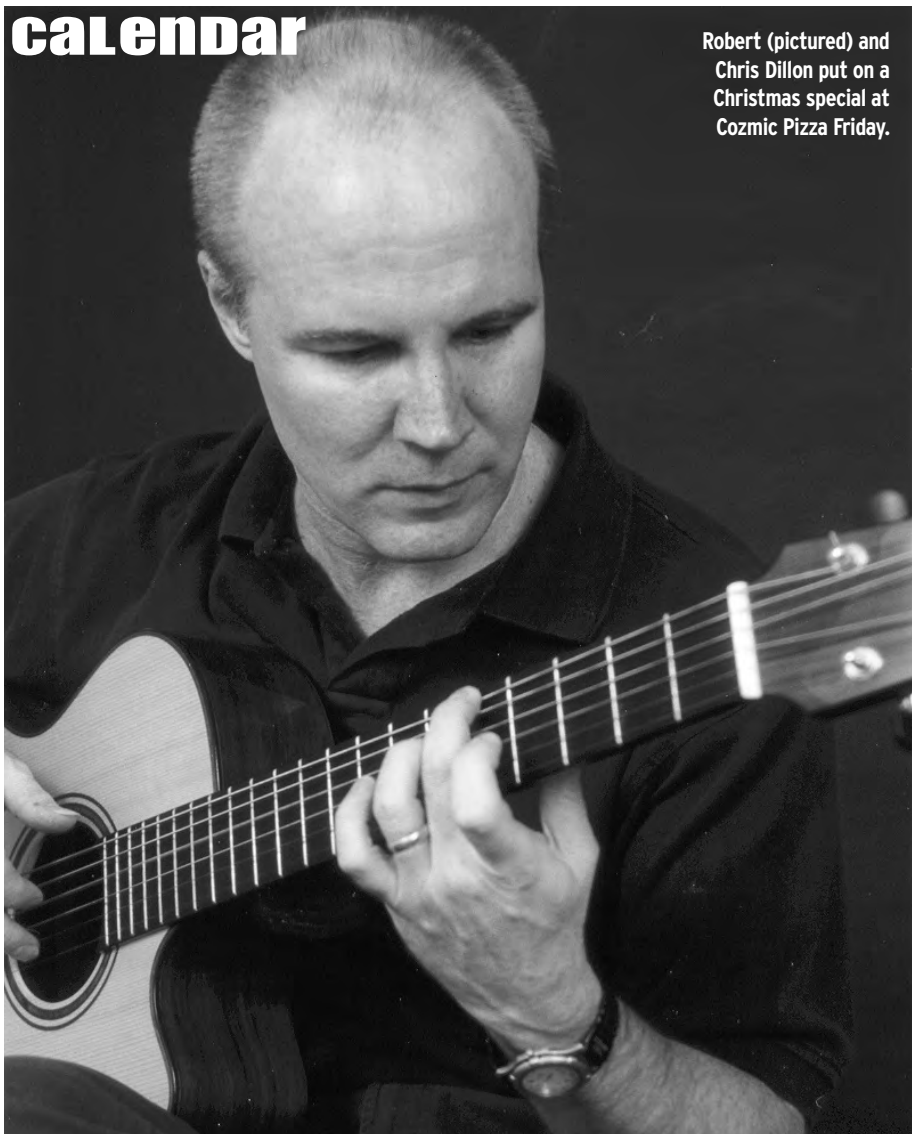
ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses spiritual health, physical health, and the joys of rowing and kayaking with Renee Riley-Adams of the Ashland Rowing Club and Stephan Kiesling, editor of *Spirituality and Health* magazine, 8am and 8pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" features "Just Say Yes: Improvising Your Life" with Patricia Ryan Madson, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.



Kiki and Herb appear at Portland's Wonder Ballroom Thursday, Dec. 29. See On the Road listings.

calendar



Robert (pictured) and Chris Dillon put on a Christmas special at Cozmic Pizza Friday.

CORVALLIS events

SATURDAY, DEC. 24
Community Christmas Eve service, noon, Lebanon Mennonite Church, Sweet Home. FREE.

Debra Mathis, 9:30am, 2nd St. Beanery. FREE.

SUNDAY, DEC. 25 Holiday dinner, 2pm, Corvallis Senior Center. Check space availability at 766-6959. \$8.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28
Thriving Theatre! improv night, 9:30pm, lovino's. \$5.

ON THE road

Note: Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 22 Do Jump for the Holidays, 7:30pm tonight and tomorrow, Echo Theatre, Portland. \$22 adv., \$26 dos.

Bi-Mart Winter Wonderland, 5pm-10pm Sundays through Thursdays and 5pm-11pm Fridays and Saturdays through Jan. 1, Portland International Raceway. \$14 per car.

The Polar Express, an adventure to the North Pole, 6pm tonight and tomorrow, Mt. Hood Railroad, Hood River. \$24, \$16 kids.

FRIDAY, DEC. 23 Jerry Joseph and the Jackmormons (CD release for *In the Lovely*), Michael Dean Damron Band, Evan McDonnell and Friends, 9pm, Crystal Ballroom, Portland. 21+ show. \$8 adv., \$10 dos.

Sons of Beaches, 7pm, Blu Cork Wine Bar, Newport. FREE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 24 Carrie's favorites wine tasting, 1pm-5pm, The Wine Place, Yachats. FREE.

Tuba Christmas, noon, Elsinore Theatre, Salem. www.elsinoretheatre.com

THURSDAY, DEC. 29 Kiki & Herb, 8pm, Wonder Ballroom, Portland. 21+ show. \$20.

The Clarridge Fiddlers with Ben Krakauer, 8pm, Mojo Rising, Ashland. \$10.



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this season



calendar

ATTN: OPPORTUNITIES

The Eugene Community Orchestra has openings for strings and percussion. No audition required. For information contact Chet Peterson, 343-7443.

Auditions for new members of the Eugene Concert Choir and Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble will take place Jan. 11. To schedule an audition, call Diane Retallack, 687-6865. Auditioners should prepare a solo song, be prepared to sing scales and demonstrate tonal ability, and have some sightreading ability.

Lord Leebrick Theatre Company seeks submissions of original plays for its 2006 Northwest Playwrights Festival. Any unpublished and unproduced scripts of one-act or full-length plays by writers from the Pacific Northwest are eligible. To submit a play for consideration, send a resumé, a one page synopsis, a cast list, a description of scenic requirements and ten pages of sample dia-

logue to Lord Leebrick Theatre Company, 1320 W. 2nd Avenue, Eugene, OR 97402. Materials will

Jerry Joseph and the Jackmormons celebrate the release of their new CD in Portland Friday. See On the Road listings.



not be returned. Postmark deadline is Jan. 31, 2006.

Auditions for the Lane Community College Chamber Orchestra and Symphonic Band will be held from 3pm-8pm Tuesday, Jan. 10 and Thursday, Jan. 12 in room 142 of building 6 on the LCC campus. The auditions are open to students and community members. For information and to make an audition appointment call 342-3257.

Dance Listings

TH: Adult ballet-10 & 5:30, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
Adult urban beat jazz dance-4:30, In Shape Fitness. 517-9665.
Argentine tango, all-level-8; Studio B. www.eugenetango.com
iBailamos! dance concepts en Español for ages 3-4-3:30, Washington Park Community Center. 689-3233.
Hip hop, beginning/intermediate-4, Paradise Dance Studio. 747-1323.
NIA-9 & 6, Body Now (women only); 9, Studio B; 5:30, YMCA; 5:30, Willamalane Adult Activity Center. www.nia-nia.com
Sparkplug Dance, creative dance for teens and adults-6:30, Washington Park Community Center. 689-3233.
Swing aerobics-noon, Paradise Dance Studio. 343-7826.
FR: Adult ballet-5:30, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
Bhangra-6, Yoga West.
Capoeira, all-level-7, In Shape Fitness. www.capoeiraeugene.org
Flamenco, beginning-5, 431-1640.
Friday Night Dance-9, StaverDanceSport. 746-6268.
HoopDance-7, Core Star Cultural Center. www.mandalahoops.com
NIA-9, Body Now (women only); 5:30, In Shape Fitness (868-5900). www.nia-nia.com
Salsa-9, Studio B. 687-0678.
Tango, intro class-8; Milonga (social dance)-9, The Tango Center. www.tangocenter.org
SA: Adult ballet-10, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
African, all-level-11, Skinner Butte Park near Campbell Senior Center. 653-2840.
Ballroom, Latin-7:15, Studio B. www.alexanderdanceonline.com
Brazilian (Samba, xe, Coco, Maracatu, Forró)-1, Core Star Cultural Center. 686-5708
Healing dance & yoga-11, Fool's Paradise Tea House. 653-2840.
NIA-9, Body Now. Women only. www.nia-nia.com
Pre-ballet/creative movement-11:30, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
Tango intro class-8; Milonga (social dance)-9, The Tango Center. www.tangocenter.org
Tango with Homer Ladas-9, Eugene Tango Center.
West African, all levels-6:30, Odd Fellows Hall, Corvallis. 753-6833.
SU: Ballet, intermediate-4:30, InShape Fitness.
Capoeira, all-level-7, Core Star Community Space.

www.capoeiraeugene.org
Contact improvisation-4, Eugene School of Ballet. 607-9416.
Lindy, advanced-5; intermediate-6; Lindy hop swing basics-7, Agate Hall, UO. www.thejointisjumpin.com
NIA-12:30, In Shape Fitness. www.nia-nia.com
West African-11, WOW Hall. 687-2746.
MO: Adult ballet-5:30, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
Afro-rhythmic dance fitness-10, Paradise Dance. 747-1323.
Capoeira, all-level-8, In Shape Fitness. www.capoeiraeugene.org
Flamenco, beginning-7, 431-1640.
Jazz, intermediate-11, Paradise Dance. 747-1323.
NIA-9 & 5, Body Now (women only); 9 & 7, Eugene School of Ballet (868-5900); 9:30 & 5:30, Tamarack Wellness Center; 9:30, YMCA. www.nia-nia.com
Tap, beginning-7, Paradise Dance. 747-1323.
West Coast swing-7, Agate Hall, UO. www.68swing.com
TU: Adult ballet-10, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
African-6:30, Fool's Paradise Tea House. 653-2840.
Eugene Swing Team-7, Rock 'n' Rodeo. 687-9464.
Hip hop, beginning/intermediate-5:30; Bhangra-7, Paradise Dance Studio. 747-1323.
International folk-7, St. Mary's Episcopal Church. 461-9328.
NIA-9 & 6, Body Now (women only); 9, Studio B; 9, YMCA; 5:30, Willamalane Adult Activity Center. www.nia-nia.com
Neuro Nurture developmental movement for babies and parents-10:30, Sparkplug Dance. www.sparkplugdance.org
WE: Adult ballet-5:30, Paradise Dance. 485-4669.
Afro-rhythmic dance fitness-10, Paradise Dance. 747-1323.
Capoeira, all-level-8, In Shape Fitness. www.capoeiraeugene.org
Contact improvisation-5:30, Agate Hall, UO. 343-2913.
Dance in earth tones-9, Studio B. 342-4690.
Flamenco, beginning-6, 431-1640.
Fluid movement-9, Tamarack Wellness Center. 683-9501.
Jazz, intermediate-11, Paradise Dance. 747-1323.
NIA-9 & 5, Body Now (women only); 10:30, Core Star; 7, Eugene School of Ballet (868-5900); 5:30, Tamarack Wellness Center. www.nia-nia.com
Swing, lindy hop-8, Studio B. www.eugenelindy.com
Tap, beginning-4:30, Paradise Dance. 747-1323.

Have a Safe & Happy New Year!

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art IN THE galleries

All exhibits free unless otherwise noted.

462 Polk Studio Gallery Paintings, clay masks, posters, prints and more by Kiki Metzler and other artists, ongoing. Noon-3pm Tu-Th; 6pm-9pm Last Fridays, and by appointment. 462 Polk St. 342-6776.

Aesthetical Surgical Arts Prints by Connie Mueller and sculpture by Dale Mueller, through Jan. 31. 8:30am-5:30pm M-Sa. 2550 Willakenzie Road.

Alder Gallery "La Petite XIII," through Jan. 21. 11am-5pm Tu-Sa; 11am-3pm Su. Coburg. 342-6411

Applegate Art Gallery Work by local artists, ongoing. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 88338 Territorial, Veneta.

The Art of Everything Work by local artists, ongoing. Noon-6pm, Tu-F; noon-4pm Sa. 513 Main St., Cottage Grove.

Art-Exiled Original work by refugee artists, currently specializing in work by Burmese refugees, ongoing. By appointment. 1973 Pierce St. 689-2441. www.art-exiled.org

Bagel Sphere Watercolors and mixed media by Ellen Gabehart's students, through Dec. 28. 6am-4pm M-F; 7am-4pm Sa; 8am-3pm Su. 5768 Main, Spfld.

Benton County Historical Museum "In Print: Ten Printmakers," through Dec. 30. 10am-4:30pm Tu-Sa. 1101 Main St., Philomath.

Brewed Awakening "Photographer's Choice," work by Emerald Photographic Society members Bob Roelke, Robert Petit, Marilyn Kelly, Albert Russell, Donna Howell, Sheila Hart and Jerry Gowins, through Jan. 8. 6am-8pm M-F; 7:30am-4pm Sa & Su. 2532 Willakenzie Road.

Café Soriah Etchings by Michael DiBitetto, through Jan. 15. 11am-2pm and 5pm-10pm M-F; 11am-2pm and 5pm-11pm F-Sa. 384 West 13th.

Café Zenon Mixed-media by Martha Kimball, through Jan. 2. 8am-11pm Su-Th; 8am-midnight F & Sa. 898 Pearl St.

Circle of Hands Fine art nude photography by Jason Couch, through Jan. 3. 11:30am-5:30pm daily. 1030 Willamette St.

Cortesia Sanctuary Gallery Mystical nature photography and watercolors by Tricia Clark-McDowell, ongoing. By appointment. 84540 McBeth Rd. 343-9544.

DIVA Maude Kerns Downtown Gallery presents "Unusually Unusual," work by Roger Evers, through Dec. 30. "Mostly Oregon - Landscape Paintings," work by Sheila Ward, through Dec. 30. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa; noon-9pm First Fridays. 110 W. Broadway Ave.

Downtown Lounge Work by Michael Fulton, through Dec. 31. 11am-2am M-F; 3pm-2am Sa & Su. 959 Pearl St.

Eccentricities Zimbabwean tapestries and storyboard, unique and colorful art by various artists, ongoing. 1pm-6pm W & by appointment; open house Dec. 24, 11am-4pm. 2368 Agate St. 484-1490.

Emerald Art Center 20 top award-winning paintings from the Fall Show of the Watercolor Society of Oregon, through Dec. 29. Featured member artists for December are Donna Schimmels and Evelyn Tam. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfld. 726-8595.

Espresso PRN Galleries "The Threads of Life," healing quilts, through Feb. 15. Third Floor, Sacred Heart Medical Center, 1255

Hilyard. "Seascapes," work by Tina Bryson, Marilyn Marcus, Carol Peters and Deborah Weese, through Feb. 15. Annex, PeaceHealth Medical Group, 1162 Willamette.

Eugene Public Library "Celebrating Two Nations" and "We Are Kalapuya," through Dec. 31. 10am-8pm M-Th; 10am-6pm F-Su; 10am-8pm First Fridays. 110 W. 10th Ave.

Family Vision Center Work by Rod Gillilan, ongoing. 8am-5:30pm M-Th; 8am-4:30pm F. 1471 Pearl St.

Fenario Gallery Work by Debra Wade, through Feb. 2. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa. 570 Willamette St.

Flying Turtle Gallery Work by Alison McNair, Sharon Wick, Laura Beamer, Sean Ben-Safed, others, ongoing. 10am-6pm Th-M. 47488 Hwy 58, Oakridge. 782-1178.

Full City Coffee Roasters Watercolors by Margaret Godfrey, through Jan. 1. 5:30am-6pm M-F; 6:30am-6pm Sa; 7am-5pm Su. 842 Pearl St.

Galleries at the Events Center "Celebrate Arts 2005," through Dec. 31. 9am-5pm M-F and by appointment and during events. 715 Quince St., Florence.

Gallery at the Airport "Threads," an exhibit of fiber art, through March 16. Viewing by ticketed passengers or by appointment. Eugene Airport. 744-0909.

Gallery at Opus6ix "4 12 Inches (Less Than or Equal to 12 Inches)," through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm Th-Th & Sa; 10am-8pm F; 11am-4pm Su. 22 W. 7th Ave.

Giustina Gallery "The Oregon Coast: Visions and Perspectives," work by 20 local photographers and 15 poets, through Dec. 31. 8am-5pm M-F. LaSells Golden Center, OSU, Corvallis.

Golden China Buffett Work by William Kasper, through Jan. 31. 11am-9pm daily. 1525 Franklin Blvd.

Health Information Library, PeaceHealth Medical Group Annex Oil portraits of physicians by Jo Brasells, through Dec. 31. 9am-4:30pm M-Th; 9am-1pm F. 1202 Willamette St.

Hinman Vineyards Work by Richard Quigley, Jeannine Edelblut, Rick Williams, ongoing. Noon-5pm daily. 27012 Briggs Hill Rd. 345-1945.

I Run With Scissors Salon Mosaic table, fractals, oils and more, ongoing. Evenings, W-F. 570 Lawrence St., Suite 112.

Ivan Kelly Studio-Gallery Paintings by Ivan Kelly, ongoing. 11am-5pm Sa; 1pm-5pm Su. 207 E. Graham, Toledo. 336-1124.

Jacobs Gallery "Allusion & Allegory: Eric Petersen & Beverly Soasey," through Jan. 21. Noon-5pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "Michael Kenna: Views of Japan," through Jan. 22. "Inside the Floating World: Japanese Prints from the Lenoir C. Wright Collection" and "Ukiyo-e Outside In," through Jan. 8. Van Gogh's *Femme Dans Un Jardin* and Henri Edmund Cross' *Un Pin*, through June. 11am-5pm Th-Su; 11am-8pm W. \$5, \$3 stu., sr.

Karin Clarke Gallery New landscapes by Margaret Coe, through Dec. 31. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 760 Willamette St. 684-7963.

Lane County Historical Museum "Oregon Trail" and other exhibits, ongoing. 10am-4pm W-F; noon-4pm Sa, Su. 740 W. 13th Ave. \$2.

La Follette Gallery "6th Annual Benchmark Printmakers Show," through Jan. 31. 10am-6pm M-F; 10am-5pm Sa. 931 Oak St.

Lane Memorial Blood Bank Handmade fly fishing flies and gear by Michael Williams, through Feb. 3. 8am-5pm M-F. 2211 Willamette.

LCC Center for Meeting and Learning Gallery "Studio Mates: Remembering David Joyce Through the Work of John Banguess, Bob Devine and Ron Finne," through Feb. 2006. 9am-5pm M-F and occasional evening and weekend hours. Building 19, Lane Community College. 463-3511.

Work by Evelyn Tam, at Emerald Art Center through Dec. 29.



Letterhead Gallery Sculpture by Frank Russell and Betty Wolfston, ongoing. 10am-6pm M-F; 9am-5pm Sa. 25 E. 8th Avenue.

Luna Work by Jerry Ross, through Jan. 7. 4pm-10pm Tu-Th; 4pm-midnight F-Sa. 30 E. Broadway.

Maude Kerns Art Center "Art for All Seasons," annual membership show and Club Mud show and sale, through Dec. 23. 10am-5pm M-F; Noon-4pm Sa. Closed Dec. 24-Jan. 2. 1910 E. 15th Ave. \$3 sug. don.

Mrs. Thompson's "Tree Mystery: A Holiday Celebration of Celtic Traditions," mixed media work by artists and photographers, through Jan. 6. 11am-7pm M-F; Noon-5pm Sa. 27 W. 5th Ave.

Museum of Modern Malabon Art Student artwork, grades K-5, ongoing. 8:15am-2:15pm M-F. Malabon Elementary School, 1380 Taney St.

Museum of Natural and Cultural History "The Long View: Eastern Oregon Landscapes by Garry Fritz," through Dec. 22. "Lewis, Clark and Company: Ambassadors, Explorers and

Naturalists," through Jan. 2006. 11am-5pm Tu-Su. 1680 E. 15th Ave. \$3, \$2 sr.

Museum of Unfine Art Work by Robert Adams, Heather Feather, Kevin Lipps, Raina MacDonnell and Elizabeth Keller, through Dec. 31. 10:37am-7pm M-F; 1:14pm-7pm Sa. 537 Willamette St.

New Odyssey "Beautiful Minds," work by David Rosenow, Ron Lafond and Michel Savage, through Feb. 1. 7:30am-6pm M-Th; 7:30am-8pm F; 9am-5pm Sa & Su. 1004 Willamette.

Of Grape and Grain Work by Claudia "Cloud" Gray, Margaret Joyce, Raphael Schepf and Stephen Bennett, through Jan. 5. 9am-5pm M-Sa; noon-4:30pm Su. 160 Oakway Rd.

Opus6ix Work by Jerry Baron, Gaya Glass, Pat Horsley and others, ongoing. 10am-6pm Tu-Th & Sa; 10am-8pm F; 11am-4pm Su. 22 West 7th Ave.

Opus6ix Artists' Gallery "Frozen in Time," work by LiDonna Wagner, through Jan. 16. 10am-6pm Tu-Th & Sa; 10am-8pm F; 11am-4pm Su. 22 West 7th Ave.

Oregon Gallery Photography by Ron Keebler, watercolors by Michael Smith, pottery by Richard Sanchez and work by many Northwest artists, ongoing. 10am-6pm M-F; 11am-7pm Sa; noon to 5pm Su. 199 E. 5th Ave., Suite 5.

Rainbow Optics Gallery "The Magic Carpet Project," quilts drawn by children in the U.S. are woven by Turkish weavers, through March 31. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9am-5pm Sa. 766 E. 13th Ave.

Sam Bond's Garage "Icons," work by Claire Flint, through Dec. 30. 4pm-late daily. 407 Blair Blvd.

Sattva Gallery Work by Mitzi Linn, ongoing. 10am-7pm M-Sa; 10am-6pm Su. 1801 Willamette St.

Secret House Winery "Little Pond Nature Prints," work by Bruce Koike, ongoing. 11am-5pm daily. 88324 Vineyard Lane, Veneta.

Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House 8th Annual Victorian Christmas Exhibit, through mid-Jan. 10am-1pm Tu-F; 1pm-4pm Sa, Su. 303 Willamette St. \$5.

Springfield Museum Metalsmithing by Dan White, through Jan. 7. 10am-5pm Tu-F; noon-4pm Sa. 6th & Main, Spfld. \$2.

Sweet Home Gallery Work by Maria Avila, Lee Dunning and Adriana Avila, ongoing. 9am-7pm daily. 2690 Kalmia St., Sweet Home.

Tamarack Wellness Center Gallery 2nd Annual Photography Exhibit, including work by Debby and Rick Barich, Eric Brandt, Jon Alan Deming, James Guay, Scott Edward Huetten and Nancy Yamin, through Feb. 24. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9:30am-noon Sa. 3575 Donald St.

University of Oregon Law Center "Chromatography," photography by Jame Guay, through Jan. 6. 9am-10pm M-Su. 1515 Agate St.

White Lotus Gallery Work by Helen Lio, Connie Mueller, Gary Tepfer and Jamie Newton, through Jan. 17. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette St. 345-3276.

Willamalane Adult Activity Center Gallery "The World of Cats: Images in Acrylic," work by Shirley Reade, through Dec. 30. 8am-5pm M-F. 215 West C St., Spfld.

WOW Hall Lobby Paintings by Jeff Hurt, through Dec. 31. 3pm-6pm M-F. WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th.

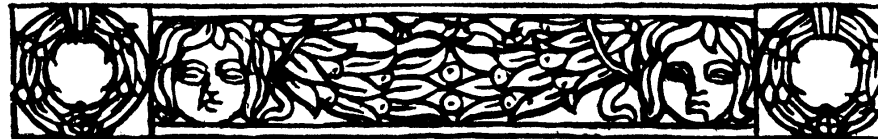
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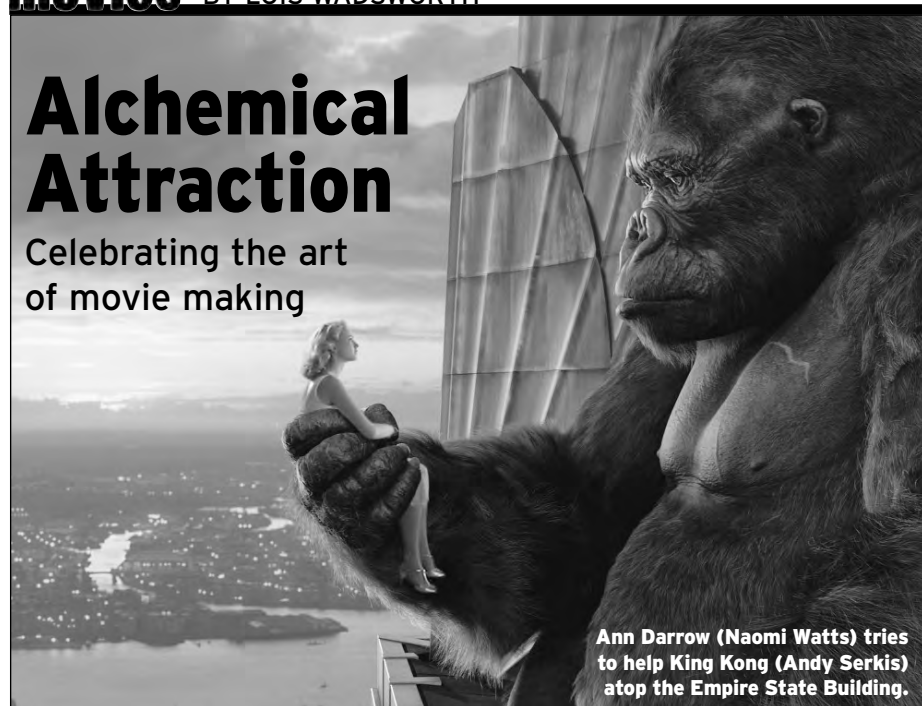
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Ann Darrow (Naomi Watts) tries to help King Kong (Andy Serkis) atop the Empire State Building.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES, 2005

KING KONG: Directed and co-written by Peter Jackson. Co-written by Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens, based on the story by Merian C. Cooper and Edgar Wallace. Produced by Jan Blenkin, Carolynne Cunningham, Fran Walsh and Peter Jackson. Cinematography, Andrew Lesnie. Production design, Grant Major. Editors, Jamie Selkirk, Jabez Olssen. Special makeup, creatures and miniatures, Richard Taylor. Visual effects supervisor, Joe Letteri. Music by James Newton Howard. Starring Naomi Watts, Jack Black and Adrien Brody. With Thomas Kretschmann, Colin Hanks, Jamie Bell, Evan Parke, Kyle Chandler, Andy Serkis. Universal Pictures, 2005. 180 minutes. PG-13.

The best advice you'll get from me about Peter Jackson's brilliantly reimagined *King Kong* is: See it the way a child would. Toss out the hype cluttering your mind, and go to the movie with new eyes, as if you had never heard any version of the story. Stop reading now. Just go.

The first hour of the film lends itself to a child-like vision of New York during the Great Depression. In addition to people standing in soup lines and those getting evicted, you also meet a vaudevillian hooper who's all heart, Ann Darrow (Naomi Watts), who wants to be a serious actress. When she meets the high-stakes dreamer who promises to make her a movie star, Carl Denham (Jack Black), Ann's almost ready to sign on. Not unlike Orson Welles in ambition, self-confidence and determination, Denham pitches Darrow an offer she can't resist.

But after meeting Captain Englehorn (Thomas Kretschmann), the fearsome captain of the tramp steamer on which the cast and crew are traveling, Ann turns ambivalent. But Denham isn't above deceiving New York playwright Jack Driscoll (Adrien Brody) to get him to come along and write the film Denham believes will be a great success. And after Ann meets Jack, you better believe the film's going to be a great romance as well as an adventure.

About the time the steamer left the harbor, I was hooked. The experience was similar to how I read, heard and imagined adventure stories when I was a kid — especially those set in exotic but secret places, such as Skull Island. I knew I was on the right track when the steam ship actually rammed into an unknown, walled island in an unexplored part of the great, warm ocean and worlds away from the shipping lanes and the hustle-bustle of commerce. Wow!

Even in my wildest dreams I couldn't have made up the hideous creatures and cruel people of Skull Island. Although *Jurassic*

Park makes you think you've seen all possible prehistoric animals, Jackson and his crew of WETA magicians have given birth to sharp-toothed, whip-smart dinosaurs that chase their prey with relish. The island's people remind me of the depraved ones with Kurt in the jungles of Southeast Asia in *Apocalypse Now*. Like them, these folks are gleefully (and creatively) drawn to gore.

When the cast and crew naively disembark the ship, you know trouble is waiting. The filmmaker's loyal assistant (Colin Hanks) see Denham's less savory side, while Ann's wimpy co-star (Kyle Chandler) turns out to be less than heroic. After they are all routed, Kong rescues Ann from an ugly death ritual practiced by the locals, plucking her up in his fist like a limp ragdoll and taking her away from the rugged coastline. When he toys with the scantily clad but fiercely resisting Ann, it's much like watching a cat taunt a stunned mouse or bird.

Stop reading now. JUST GO.

A rescue party led by Jack tries to find Ann, but the group now is hunted by icky predators, including giant worms apparently attracted by body heat and creepy giant cricket-like things bent on mayhem. Hayes (Evan Parke), the ship's first mate and a trustworthy officer, reluctantly allows young Jimmy (Jamie Bell) to accompany him to the island's dank interior. After many battles, the party returns to the ship, and Kong brings Ann to his lair, a cave set high in the mountains, with a view. There she entertains him with hijinks such as cartwheels, which seals the bond between this beauty and her beast. Seeing the giant gorilla's gentler side transforms horror into wonder and makes the film even more enjoyable.

Black shows himself to be a crafty actor with a mad twinkle in his eyes that's irresistible. Brody proves to be a desirable lover in his first romantic role. Watts demonstrates again the acting magic that made her film debut in David Lynch's *Mulholland Drive* so memorable. And Andy Serkis should receive some special award for making Kong's ending the tragedy it deserves to be.

Now playing at Cinema World and Cinemark, *King Kong* is one of the great films of the year. Don't miss it. Very highest recommendations. **EW**



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PRODUCERS PG13
12:35, 3:45, 7:15, 10:25

RUMOR HAS IT PG13
11:15, 1:50, 4:45, 7:55, 10:30

WOLF CREEK R
11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 7:25, 10:00

MUNICH R
10:55, 2:45, 7:00, 10:45

RINGER PG13
11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:50, 10:20

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA PG13
10:50, 3:15, 7:05, 10:25

FUN WITH DICK & JANE PG13
11:35, 2:00, 4:25, 7:20, 9:55

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 PG
11:45, 2:15, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15

FAMILY STONE PG13
11:05, 1:55, 4:35, 7:45, 10:30

KING KONG PG13
10:05, 10:25, 11:00, 12:30, 2:05, 2:30, 3:00, 4:30, 6:15, 6:40, 7:05, 8:30, 10:10, 10:35, 11:00

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA PG
10:00, 12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 6:35, 7:30, 9:45, 10:40

HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE PG13
10:30, 2:10, 7:00

SYRIANA R
10:35 PM

WALK THE LINE PG13
7:10, 10:20

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JUST FRIENDS PG13
(12:05) 2:25, 4:45, 7:25 [9:50]

DREAMER PG
(11:20) 1:55, 4:30, 7:10 [9:55]

ZATHURA PG
(11:15) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30 [10:05]

NORTH COUNTRY R
(11:35) 3:00, 7:05, [10:10]

JARHEAD R
(11:15) 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, [10:30]

LEGEND OF ZORRO PG
(11:40) 2:55, 6:50, [9:45]

WALLACE & GROMIT G
(12:00) 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, [9:35]

THE WEATHER MAN R
7:50, [10:25]

FLIGHT PLAN PG13
(11:25) 2:05, 4:35, 7:20, [10:00]

TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE PG
(11:50) 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, [9:40]

JUST LIKE HEAVEN PG13
2:40, 7:55

40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN R
(11:30) 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, [10:30]

ELIZABETHTOWN PG13
(11:55) 5:00, [10:15]

SKY HIGH PG
(11:45) 2:20, 4:45
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Ray Clouds on Fire (Tim Vahle)
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MAJESTIC FILMS, 2001

Comedy of Errors

A Native American romance

CHRISTMAS IN THE CLOUDS:

Written, produced and directed by Kate Montgomery. Producer, Sarah Wasserman. Cinematography, Steven Bernstein. Production design, Mark Worthington. Editors, Maysie Roy, Mary Ann Skweres. Composer, Stephen McKeon. Starring Tim Vahle, Mariana Tosca, Sam Vlahos, M. Emmet Walsh, Graham Greene and Sheila Tousey. With Rosalind Ayres, Jonathan Joss, Shirley Cheechoo, Rita Coolidge, Lois Red Elk, Wes Studi. Native musicians: Walela, Carlos Nakai, the Navajo Choir, Keith Secola, the Wild Band of Indians, Pamyua, Bob Bayless. Native Fine Artist: Dan Lomahaftewa. Majestic Films, 2001. PG. 97 minutes.

tribe, Joe Clouds on Fire (Sam Vlahos), is obsessed with winning the new Jeep at the big bingo party to impress a woman pen pal.

On the other side of the country, Christina Little Hawk (Mariana Tosca) tells her mother (Rita Coolidge) and grandmother (Lois Red Elk) that she's planning to fly out West to check out the man who's been writing her such romantic letters. She'll travel incognito, of course.

Two guests arrive at the resort, Mabel (Rosalind Ayres) and Stu O'Malley (M. Emmet Walsh), neither of whom meets Shirley's romantic notion of a resort critic. But when a lovely young woman named Tina (Tosca) comes to the desk, Shirley rushes off to tell Tim the Worthington woman has arrived. Of course, he wants to make a good impression.

Well, you can see where some of this is going, but you have no idea how much you'll enjoy getting there. The mistaken identity plot offers lots of opportunities for missed communications, but the subplot that in-

This funny, fine family-friendly film reaches out to a larger audience with its fall 2005 U.S. theatrical release in selected cities after winning awards at film festivals and special screenings since 2001. That it is a come-from-behind winner is not the reason you should see it, however. The movie stands in its own right as a heart-warming, comic blast of Native American humor, proud and unapologetic.

The movie stands in its own right as a heart-warming, comic blast of Native American humor, proud and unapologetic.

The story takes place in a beautiful lodge (actually the resort at Sundance) nestled high in mountains that were the summer home of the Ute Indians centuries ago. Ray Clouds on Fire (Tim Vahle) is the native son who's come home, now the general manager of his tribe's struggling ski resort. His zealous marketing director and front desk greeter, Mary (Sheila Tousey), tells him an incognito critic from the prestigious Worthington Travel Guide is coming. Although they will not know which guest is the travel guide writer, Mary is sure she'll be able to tell.

Ray tries to inspire his kitchen to outdo itself for the next few days, but he has trouble with his vegetarian chef, Earl (Graham Greene), who doesn't want to cook meat. The maids (Shirley Cheechoo, Georgina Lightning) are planning to bring their kids to work because school's out for the holidays. Phil (Jonathan Joss), the handyman, is looking forward to a new crop of snow bunnies. And Ray's own father, the retired chief of the

volves O'Malley and old Joe turns out to be as important for the story. The Utah mountain scenes are gorgeous, with all that white powder snow and incredible vistas. Makes me briefly wish for a white Christmas.

If you've never seen a movie that pictures contemporary Native American people in non-stereotypical roles, *Christmas in the Clouds* is a great introduction. The film will be included in a film and DVD festival Feb. 10-12 at the Bijou, co-sponsored by *Eugene Weekly* and the Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics on the UO campus. The issue of ethnic identity in movies is central to both the festival, "Imagining Indians: Indigenous North Americans in Film," and to an unique, excellent art exhibit of movie posters, "Marquee Massacres: Native Americans in 100 Years of Global Movie Graphics," Jan. 27-March 4 at the Jacobs Gallery in the Hult Center.

This film opens at the Bijou on Dec. 23 and is highly recommended. It will make you happy.

EW

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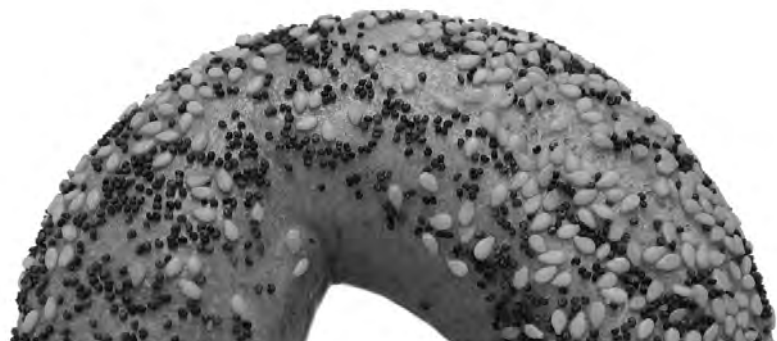
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movie clips

OPENING OR RETURNING:

Cheaper By the Dozen 2: Steve Martin stars in this sequel to his 2003 family comedy, which also stars Bonnie Hunt, Piper Perabo and Hilary Duff. Directed by Adam Shankman (*The Pacifier*). PG. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Christmas in the Clouds: Kate Montgomery's family-friendly, heartwarming tale is about contemporary Native Americans. Set in the mountains of Utah at a posh tribal spa and resort, the film stars Tim Vahle, Mariana Tosca, Sam Vlahos, M. Emmet Walsh, Graham Greene and Sheila Tousey. A critic is coming to rate the place, and no one knows who he or she is. A comic blast of Native American humor, this film is highly recommended for your holiday pleasure. PG. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

Dreamer: Inspired By a True Story: Drama about a father (Kurt Russell) who, for the love of his daughter (Dakota Fanning), sacrifices almost everything to save the life of an injured racehorse and bring the filly back to her former glory. Also stars Kris Kristofferson, Elizabeth Shue. Rated PG. Movies 12.

Fun With Dick and Jane: Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni star as middle-class thieves in Dean Parisot's remake of the limp 1977 comedy starring Jane Fonda and George Segal. Also stars Alec Bladwin and Angie Harmon. PG-13. Cinemark. Cinema World.

Memoirs of a Geisha: Rob Marshall (*Chicago*) directs the screen version of the 1997 Arthur Golden novel, which is about a poor girl who becomes the most celebrated geisha of her time. The film stars the beautiful and talented Ziyi Zhang, Gong Li and Michelle Yeoh, with Ken Watanabe as the leading man. PG-13. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Munich: Steven Spielberg's already controversial film about the secret Mossad assassins who tracked down the masked Palestinian terrorists

who murdered 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympics. Screenplay by Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*), film stars Eric Bana, Geoffrey Rush, Daniel Craig, Mathieu Kassovitz and Ciaran Hinds. R. Cinemark.

North Country: Niki Caro (*Whale Rider*) delivers this powerful story of Josey Aimes (Charlize Theron) and her struggle against sexual harassment in the mines of northern Minnesota. Also stars Sissy Spacek, Elle Peterson, Woody Harrelson, Sean Bean. Rated R. Movies 12.

Producers, The: Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick reprise their award-winning Broadway performances in this adaptation by Susan Stroman of Mel Brooks-Thomas Meehan show, which was based on Mel Brook's movie, which was based on an earlier movie. So the material is familiar. But, hey, this movie also stars Will Ferrell, Uma Thurman and Andrea Martin. PG-13. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Ringer, The: Comedy directed by Barry Blaustein stars Johnny Knoxville as a gambler posing as a contestant in the Special Olympics, which he plans to fix. Also stars Brian Ciox, Katherine Heigl. PG-13. Cinemark.

Rumor Has It: This family comedy romance directed by Rob Reiner stars Jennifer Aniston, Shirley MacLaine, Mark Ruffalo, Kevin Costner and Mena Suvari. I love it when Aniston wails, "We're the Robinsons," referring to the love affair between Dustin Hoffman and Mrs. Robinson (Anne Bancroft) in Mike Nichols' 1967 great film, *The Graduate*. PG-13. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Wolf Creek: Supposedly based on actual Australian homicides, the film is directed by Greg McLean and stars Cassandra Magrath, Kestie Morassi and Nathan Phillips as backpackers in the outback who run into some hell-bent crazies. R. Cinemark.

Zathura: Like the 1995 hit *Jumanji*, this tale of two brothers (Josh

Hutcherson, Jonah Bob) who find a peculiar board game in their basement and find out the game is true is far-fetched but fun. Jon Favreau directs, and film also stars Tim Robbins, Kristen Stewart. PG. Movies 12.

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:

Chronicles of Narnia, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe: One of the most beloved adventure stories written, this is the tale of four siblings who walk into a magic land and meet astonishing creatures who change their lives forever. Based on C.S. Lewis' timeless stories, the film is directed by New Zealander Andrew Adamson. It stars Tilda Swinton, Rupert Everett, Jim Broadbent, Ray Winstone and children: Anna Popplewell, Skandar Keynes and William Moseley. PG. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Corpse Bride, Tim Burton's: Stop-motion animated film set in a 19th century European village is voiced by Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham-Carter and Emily Watson. Movies 12.

Elizabethtown: Cameron Crowe (*Vanilla Sky*, *Almost Famous*) directs Orlando Bloom as a young man who's just lost his job, his girlfriend and his father. He meets Kirsten Dunst on a plane. This romantic comedy-drama tells his story of returning home to Kentucky and finding new meaning in his life. PG-13. Movies 12.

Family Stone, The: Everett Stone (Dermot Mulroney) brings his girlfriend (Sarah Jessica Parker) home for the holidays. Parents (Diane Keaton, Craig T. Nelson) and siblings (Rachel McAdams, Elizabeth Reaser, Luke Wilson, Ty Giordano) welcome her in their own ways. Also stars Claire Danes. Directed by Thomas G.

Bezucha. PG-13. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Flightplan: Jody Foster stars in this Brian Grazer-produced psychological thriller about a woman whose 6-year old daughter disappears without a trace mid-flight in a state-of-the-art aircraft. Directed by Robert Swenke, film also stars Peter Sarsgaard and Sean Bean. PG-13. Movies 12. **Online archives.**

Forty-Year Old Virgin: Andy Sitzer (Steve Carell) has lived a life of involuntary chastity, and his friends are determined to do something about his state. Directed by Judd Apatow, the film stars Catherine Keener, Paul Rudd and others. R. Movies 12. **Online archives.**

Good Night and Good Luck: Edward R. Murrow did more to make television a serious news venue than almost any other journalist. George Clooney's film is set in 1953, when the CBS newsman (played by David Strathairn) battled powerful Senator Joseph McCarthy (shown only in archival shots and speaking his own words).. McCarthy's witch hunting tactics were on display in the House Un-American Activities Committee, and Clooney wants us to remember Murrow's courage. As *The New York Times* puts it: "Murrow, a war hero in his own right, recognized McCarthyism as a domestic echo of Nazism." This may be the best movie of the year. Very highest recommendations. PG. Bijou. **Online archives.**

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Starring Daniel Radcliffe. Emma Watson and Rupert Grint, this episode finds Harry's friends trying to help him through difficult times, as evidence of the presence of Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes) appears. Voldemort was last seen 13 years ago, the night he murdered Harry's parents. PG-13. Cinemark.

Jarhead: Screen adaptation of Marine Anthony Swofford's memoir of his disorienting experiences in the Gulf War stars Jake Gyllenhaal as "Swoff," Jamie Foxx and Peter

Sarsgaard. Directed by Sam Mendes. Highest recommendations. R. Movies 12. **Online archives.**

Just Friends: When Chris (Ryan Reynolds) returns to his 10-year high school reunion, he's hoping his best friend (Amy Samart) will be more than friends. PG-13. Movies 12.

Just Like Heaven: Romantic comedy starring Reese Witherspoon and Mark Ruffalo is set in San Francisco, where both claim a charming apartment is theirs alone. When she discovers she can walk through walls, they determine to solve the mystery. Directed by Mark Waters (*Mean Girls*, *Freaky Friday*). PG-13. Movies 12.

King Kong: Peter Jackson's highly anticipated re-imagining of the original film stars Naomi Watts as an actress, Jack Black as an adventurous filmmaker, and Adrien Brody as a playwright. Their troubles begin when they capture a giant ape and bring him to the city. Love this movie! Very highest recommendations. PG-13. Cinemark. Cinema World. **See review this issue.**

Legend of Zorro, The: The original masked man again played by Antonio Banderas is now working to gain statehood for California. (Huh?) Catherine Zeta-Jones and director Martin Campbell from the original return as well. Action adventure with a flair. PG-13. Movies 12.

Sky High: Son of superheroes The Commander (Kurt Russell) and Jetstream (Kelly Preston), poor Will (Michael Angarano) must go to Sky High, an elite high school, where he battles a nasty gym coach (Bruce Campbell), a bully, teen angst, parental expectations and girl problems. Wow! PG. Movies 12.

Squid and the Whale, The: Writer, director Noah Baumbach's heartfelt film about divorce stars Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, Jesse Eisenberg and Owen Kline. Funny, poignant, and subtle, the film is one of the best of the year. Highest recommendations. R. Bijou. **Online archives.**

Syriana: Long-anticipated Middle

East thriller about oil and the treacherous politics of producers vs. business interests was written and directed by the great Stephen Gaghan (*Traffic*). Stars George Clooney as CIA agent, energy analyst Matt Damon and Washington attorney Jeffrey Wright. Also Chris Cooper, William Hurt, Mazhar Munir, Tim Blake Nelson, Amanda Peet, Christopher Plummer and Alexander Siddig. Very highest recommendations. Don't miss. R. Cinemark. Cinema World. **Online archives.**

Walk the Line: The new Johnny Cash biopic stars the excellent Joaquin Phoenix as the singer, songwriter known as the Man in Black and Reese Witherspoon (with dark hair) as singer, songwriter June Carter Cash, his second wife and partner for 35 years. Directed by James Mangold. Highest recommendations for this musical love story. PG-13. Cinemark. **Online archives.**

Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit: Nick Park's and Steve Box's outstanding creations, an eccentric inventor named Wallace and his long-suffering, silent but faithful dog, Gromit, finally reach the big screen in their first feature-length film. The mystery of a vegetable-ravaging "beast" must be solved to save the village's Giant Vegetable Competition, and our intrepid hero Wallace (voice by Peter Sallis) is just the man for the job. Lady Tottington (Helena Bonham Carter) and Victor Quartermaine (Ralph Fiennes) co-star. Most excellent, divine comedy. G. Movies 12.

Weather Man, The: Chicago TV Weather Man (Nicolas Cage) finds successful career no match for family life. Directed by Gore Verbinskin, film also stars Michael Caine, Hope Davis and Michael Rispoli. R. Movies 12. **Online archives.**

Bijou Art Cinemas (686-2458)
Cinema World 8 (342-6536)
Cinemark 17 (746-5202)
Movies 12 (741-1231)

Holidays Are Sweet

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petit fours
pumpkin cheesecake
gingerbread people
assorted cookies
snow globes
caramel apple dumpling
stollen
k&au chocolates
fruitcake
fudge
springerle
bûche de Noël
french rolls
snowflake shortbread
sugar plum
peppermint bark
pumpkin
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CLASSIC HOLIDAY CHEER *CDs to get you in the mood* BY BRETT CAMPBELL

SAVAE, *La Noche Buena*

Label: World Library • Genre: Christmas Music of Colonial Latin America

If you want warm music that's appropriate for the holidays yet still has the thrill of the unusual, you can't do better than this mesmerizing disc from the San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble. The Spanish conquest of America produced a rich mixture of indigenous Latin American, West European and West African musical forms. Written half a millennium ago by Spanish, Portuguese and Native American composers, these vigorous songs incorporate influences and instruments such as the teponaztli log drum, huehuetl drum, maracas, soprano recorder, wooden rattle, ayacaxtli gourd shaker, bells, cabasa, djembe, tambourine, coyolli jingles, guiro, chicahuatzli rain stick and more.

Arvo Pärt, *Lamentate*

Label: ECM

Pärt, maybe today's most acclaimed postclassical music composer, has been a Eugene favorite since the Oregon Bach Festival debuted his *Litany* a decade ago. His new disk represents a bit of a departure, adding some wrenching dynamic explosions to his trademark bell-like "tintinnabuli" style. The 37-minute title work, a single-movement piano concerto inspired by a massive sculpture in London's Tate Modern museum, was written to accompany a new Peter Sellars antiwar production of a play by Antonin Artaud. Its veers abruptly between what the composer calls "brutal-overwhelming" and "intimate-fragile" moods. Anyone lulled by Pärt's more meditative work may be startled, but this "lament for the living" powerfully captures Pärt's response — repentance and transformation — to the world's violence and pain. A brief anthem to peace, "Da Pacem Domine," movingly sung by the Hilliard Ensemble, provides a soothing musical balm.



Tessa Brinckman & East West Continuo, *Glass Sky*

Label: North Pacific Music

Portland-based New Zealand flutist Tessa Brinckman's East West Continuo paints a series of vivid cross cultural musical portraits using flute, koto, harp, viola, cello and violin, and their debut CD is one of the loveliest albums I've heard this year. Portland composer Jack Gabel's "Through a Gentle Rain" evokes a walk in a Portland park. Bernard Andres' "Narhex" was inspired by medieval churches in Burgundy, while Bay Area composer Mark Fish's ambitious, Ravel-ian "Pictures of Miró" (2004) swings from playful to pensive to singing to ominous in

depicting 11 of the Spanish master's paintings. Swiss composer Volkmar Andreae's captivating 1942 flute quartet will happily surprise anyone who thought mid-century classical music must be thorny and dissonant. Brinckman wrote "Glass Sky" after a return visit to her childhood South African home,

incorporating Hindu raga and early European music to evoke the sculpture garden of the artist Helen Martins' Owl House Museum and the area's wildlife. Brinckman commissioned California composer D'Arcy Reynolds to compose a companion suite, "Cloven Dreams," informed by the "magical realism" of the museum's figures and set to an enchanting hybrid of African and European classical musical forms.

Robert Kyr/Third Angle, *Violin Concerto Trilogy*

Label: New Albion

With this release, Eugene's Kyr updates a classical form with contemporary global influences. "On the Nature of Love" is a series of variations for violin and strings on the hymn tune "What a Wondrous Love is This." "On the Nature of Peace" employs

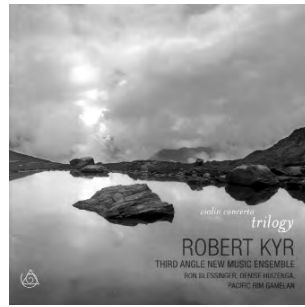
percussion and chamber orchestra to musically enact a conflict and resolution narrative. "On the Nature of Harmony," the most daring in the trio, employs what Kyr calls a world orchestra: string quartet, various orchestral wind and percussion instruments, and the UO's Pacific Rim Gamelan, an ensemble of gongs and other percussion instruments from Bali. Despite the radically different tunings and timbres involved, Kyr demonstrates just how effectively different cultural traditions can not only co-exist, but transcend their origins. The sympathetic performances by Portland's Third Angle new music ensemble make this the finest disk of Northwest postclassical music in years.

Jack Gabel / fEARnoMUSIC, *Spring Quartet*

Label: NPM

Portland's venturesome new music ensemble surveys two decades of work by one of the Northwest's finest composers. Anyone who treasures the Japanese impressionism of the late composer Toru Takemitsu will admire the ethereal "Island Phantasy," derived from a folk melody sung during an ancestor worship festival on a Japanese island Gabel visited.

"Elegy" for solo cello is a powerful memorial for the composer's father. In 1993's "Hellenic Triptych" for viola and electroacoustics, the haunting third movement, "Echo's Farewell," which begins in a hesitation dance and then floats away on a modal cloud, is one of the most rapturous musical moments I've heard this year. The major work is 2004's rhythmically charged "Spring Quartet" — the most "classical" sounding piece on the disk. Except for the drifting adagio movement, Gabel's characteristic contemplative passages here give way to a more robust idiom, including a decidedly Coplandish fourth movement. This propulsive style, perhaps influenced by his recent collaborations with choreographer Agnieszka Laska and her dance company, augurs an even brighter future for one of the Northwest's most compelling composers.



HOMEGROWN SOUNDS *Local musicians produce gift-worthy CDs* BY BRETT CAMPBELL

Still looking for that perfect gift with an Oregon twist? Here are a few more CDs from Oregon musicians. If no record label is listed, they're independent releases that you might find in enlightened local record stores or online at cdbaby.

Girl Circus, *Baby Blue/Shangrila* (girlcircus.com)

These days, Darcy DuRuz may be more famous for her slime than her music, but the former slug queen is also an accomplished circus/vaudeville/music performer who's played venues from the Paris Opera to the Salzburg Mozarteum. She and Eugene Symphony/Emerald City Jazz Kings trumpeter/guitarist/composer Dave Bender put together this inventive, utterly delightful Girl Circus project for Country Fair.

Employing more than a dozen musicians (violin, saxes, trumpets, cellos, guitar, percussion and more) plus children's choir, the music accompanies fire dancers, rope twirlers, whip crackers, jugglers, clowns, magicians and other acts. After hearing both discs, I'm sorry I missed those live performances, but it does allow me to judge whether the CDs work without having seen the show. They do, and splendidly. The remarkable variety of music (vocal, instrumental, rock, Latin beats, funk, tango, Italian, even some Philip Glass-style choral touches, cabaret) and humor make this circus well worth hearing as well as seeing.

Kurt Doles/DAC Crowell/Daniel Patrick Quinn, *Don't Look Down* (Sulven)

This album of ambient acoustic and electronic atmospheres should appeal to fans of Hal Budd, Brian Eno and other musical descendants of Erik Satie. Improvising on clarinet, trumpet, violin, viola, guitars, suling (Balinese bamboo flute) and various electronic magic, Eugene's Doles and his collaborators achieve a rich, shimmering, aqueous sound that's far more than background music. Warning to mellowers who want to drift off to snoozeland: The last track includes some gloriously intense vocal and other sounds.

Mood Area 52/Cosmos Corbin, *Guevara's Ghost* (Rocketboy)

One of the rare remix albums that actually adds something substantive to its source material, this collaboration imparts a new dimension to the Eugene tango masters' earlier acoustic recordings. More than just adding a backbeat drum track, Corbin blends in speeches by Che, various electronic magic tricks, and funk rhythms to produce a hybrid that works more often than not.



Rebecca Oswald, *October Wind* (www.rebeccaoswald.com)

I guess every solo pianist who writes original, non-improvised tunes gets compared to George Winston, and though it's unfair, Oswald's music should certainly appeal to anyone who likes heartfelt, consonant piano miniatures with clear melodies.

OK, I have to confess that some splendid music came out in 2005 that wasn't made in Oregon. Here are a few disks from various global cultures that tickled my ears this year.

Latin American: Anyone who loved the music in Buena Vista Social Club should be thrilled by the expansive, multi-disk *Cuban Essentials* collection (Escondida). Cuba boasts one of the hemisphere's three richest musical traditions, and these disks span not only the *son* style of Ibrahim Ferrer, Compay Segundo and their BVSC cohorts, but also six decades of jazz, salsa and other dance music, and various hybrids — the greatest hits of Cuba's greatest musicians.

Probably the biggest new star to emerge in world music last year was the Brazilian balladeer Seu Jorge, whose star turn in *The Life Aquatic* preceded the unanimous acclaim for his sometimes gritty, sometimes plaintive, always striking album, *Cru*.

Turkish: Maybe the finest example of the mix of contemporary technology and traditional, multi-ethnic sounds I heard this year was Mercan Dede's *Su* (Escondida), which combines his ney (Turkish flute) and percussion with guest stars from around the world to concoct a danceable, atmospheric album of modern global music.

African: Algerian-French chanteuse Souad Massi may be the best-known female singer in the Arabic world. Her beautiful *Mesk Elil* (Honeysuckle) (Wrasse) also incorporates breezy sounds from Mali and Cape Verde, and its closing dance remix shows she can hit a mighty groove as well.

Baka Beyond's long-awaited new mix of African and Celtic European music, *Rhythm Tree* (March Hare), creates hypnotic soundscapes based on traditional music of Cameroon's Baka rainforest people.

Celtic: It's been too long since Cape Breton Island's Mary Jane Lamond visited Eugene, but Celtic music fans can assuage the grief by scoring her new double disk and enhanced CD, *Storas* (Turtlemusik). As before, Lamond finds well-preserved old Gaelic tunes in her Canadian homeland, but this time updates the traditional sounds with contemporary accompaniment and harmonies.

THE PROCRASTINATOR'S GIFT GUIDE *Cheap and easy last minute gifts*



1. Planet Bike Beamer 3 white LED bicycle headlight. Paul's Bicycle Way of Life, four locations, \$19.99.

2. Isis statue. Shambala, 99 West Broadway, \$42.

This winged Isis figure is stunning and adds feminine power that's easy on the pocketbook.

3. Nirvana With the Lights Out box set. CD Game Exchange, 30 E. 11th Ave., \$30 (used).

4. Broker's Gin. Local liquor stores, including Downtown Liquor Store, 220 W. 8th Ave. \$18.95 for a fifth.

Imported and distributed by Hood River Distillers, Inc. and voted 2003's "Best Gin" by Food and Wine Magazine, this gin is the crispest, cleanest, tastiest stuff you'll find.

7. Earrings made with pink fiber-optic beads and crystal by Janna Kneale, Moulin Rouge Jewelry Company. Holiday Market, \$26.

8. Hello Kitty mittens, scarf and beanie pack. Berg's Ski Shop, 13th and Lawrence, \$40

9. Grateful Dead teddy bear backpack. Sweet Potato Pie, 20 East 11th Ave., \$25.

10. Hand-carved Balian earrings made from coconut shells. Un Solo Pueblo, 220 Valley River Center and 1077 Willamette St., \$6.

11. Tree of Life pendant by Kirk Houser. Available at Holiday Market or by e-mailing Kirk at kirkh@efn.org, \$27.

5. Fridays at the Farm sweet almond moisturizing milk bath (16 oz.) Holiday Market, booth #111, \$16. Also available in 3-oz. size, and various fragrances, including Milk & Honey and Vanilla Grapefruit.

6. Turquoise and sterling silver ring. Un Solo Pueblo, 220 Valley River Center and 1077 Willamette St., \$24.



GAME ON *2005's coolest video games* BY ANDREW MCCOLLUM

Guitar Hero (T) PlayStation 2. \$80

The gist: Players rock out to more than 30 songs with Guitar Hero's custom guitar controller, which comes complete with five fret buttons, a lever to strum and a whammy bar.

Why it's great: An excellent diversion for anyone who plays too much air guitar. If you've seen someone play Dance Dance Revolution then you're familiar with the concept — music plays as colorful dots fall down the screen, the colors

correspond with buttons on the controller. Hit the right button at the right time and score points. The game is accessible to even the most amateur gamer, but veterans will find the game's higher difficulty settings sufficiently challenging. The excellent soundtrack features covers of songs by David Bowie, Boston, The Exies and Jimi Hendrix, to name a few.

Objectionable content: None.

Resident Evil 4 (M) GameCube and PlayStation 2. \$40

The gist: Special Agent Leon Kennedy runs through Spanish villages, castles and dungeons to save the President's daughter while killing zombies.

Why it's great: After a few hours of playing RE4 you

feel like you need to take a shower. The game's impressive graphics are caked in dirt, grime and blood as players fight off hordes of not-quite-zombie cult members. RE4's gunplay is unparalleled and the game's arsenal is filled with satisfying, upgradeable weapons. RE4 is an amazing, engrossing experience that begs to be replayed.

Objectionable content: Plenty. RE4's an intensely violent and scary game. It is not for kids.

Psychonauts (T) Xbox and PlayStation 2. \$50

The gist: Students are abducted at Whispering Rocks, a summer camp for young psychics. Razputin, Raz for short, explores the minds of the various inhabitants of the camp to uncover who's snatching the campers.

Why it's great: Psychonauts, a classic platformer with a psychic twist, looks like an upbeat version of *A Nightmare Before Christmas*. The game's characters are colorful and cartoony. Each of the levels is a surreal representation of a character's personality. For instance, the mind of Coach Oleander, a grizzled army vet, is a war zone filled with foxholes, trenches and shrubbery made of machine gun bullets. Psychonauts' clever dialogue, great sense of humor and compelling gameplay make it a great gift for all gamers, young and old.

Objectionable content: Cartoon violence, some crude humor, and language, but nothing too bad for young teens.

God of War (M) PlayStation 2. \$50

The gist: Kratos, ex-Spartan soldier turned assassin for the gods, flays through ancient Greece on a quest to kill Ares, the god of war.

Why it's great: God of War is one of the most intense, visceral action games made in years. It pits players against a



bestiary filled with classic monsters including harpies, a minotaur, cyclops and gorgons. Combat in God of War is fluid and frantic as players whip, stab and slash gangs of enemies.

Objectionable content: Plenty. God of War is violent, contains nudity and has an off-screen sex scene.

The Nintendo DS \$130

The gist: A handheld system released late last year featuring two screens, one of which is touch sensitive. A great gift for any gamer on the go.

Why it's great: 2005 was a great year for the Nintendo DS. This year the system has seen a multitude of great releases including Castlevania: Dawn of Sorrow (T), an innovative take on a classic series; Kirby: Canvas Curse (E), which makes full use of the DS' touch screen; and Mario Kart DS (E), which features online play.

Objectionable content: Not much. Nintendo's systems have always had a good selection of family-friendly games and the DS is no exception.

THE RATINGS: EC: Early childhood, 3 and older. • E: Everyone 6 and older. • E10+: Everyone 10 and older. • T: Teen. 13 and older • M: Mature. 17 and older. • AO: Adults only. 18 and older.

From the Entertainment Software Ratings Board.



**BITCH MACHINE PLAYS
JOHN HENRY'S FRIDAY.**

THURSDAY DEC. 22

BADA BING'S Family Karaoke-6
BELLY UP 2nd Annual "Pray for Snow" Party-8
BLUE LUNA Natural Progression-9
COUNTRY SIDE Alliance Band-8; Blues
COZMIC PIZZA *Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price*-7; Film
DIABLO'S La80s night-10; '80s and requests
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE Abigail Rose-6:30; Cello, guitar
JAXX Gaia Tribe feat. Dave D-Luxx & Andrew Mataus-10; House
JO FED'S Jo Fed's All Star Jazz Jam-9
JOGGER'S DJ Tekneek-10; Hip hop, R&B

JOHN HENRY'S '80s Night w/Chris, Jenn and John-10
LUCKEY'S Elio Wolof-10; Indie
MAC'S Mac's & Mo's Jamm
OCTAVIO'S Christie/Croseevus
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-U's: Tim-9
OVERTIME GRILL West Side Blues Jam-8
PERUGINO Old-time jam-7:30; Appalachian
ROCK 'N' RODEO Ladies' Night w/ DJs Jon-Michael & Tony T-9; Country, rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S Inner Limits feat. Olem Alves w. Stone Mosey-9; Jazz
SAM'S PLACE Bingo Night
TAP 'N' KEG DJ Rick-9:30; Hip hop
TAYLOR'S Ladies' Night w/ DJ Tekneek & Friends
TINY TAVERN Open Mic w/ Adam, Evil Eve &

Jesse
VILLAGE INN Karaoke-9

FRIDAY DEC. 23

BADA BING'S Mr. Wizzard-9:30
BEANERY Debra Mathis-7
BELLY UP KDUK Night w/ Tik Tak & DJ Tekneek-8
BLUE LUNA Jon Fiori-6; Article Infinity & DJ Pristine-9
CLUB TSUNAMI DJ Tekneek & DJ Smuv-10; Old school vs. new school Hip hop
COUNTRY SIDE Latigo-9
COUNTRYSIDE PIZZA The Alliance Band-9
COZMIC PIZZA Robert & Chris Dillon Christmas Special-7
DIABLO'S DJ Gen.Erik & Supa J-10; Hip hop
EMBERS Michael Anderson Trio-9; Country, rock
EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE Blue Road & Friends-7; Classic '60s music
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8
JAXX Under the Table DJs-10; Hip hop, turntablism
JO FED'S The Vipers w/ Deb Cleveland-9
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B, 80s & more
JOHN HENRY'S The Hunches, The Blimp, Bitch Machine-10
LAVELLE'S Gus Russell-5:30; Jazz piano
LUCKEY'S Satin Fury, The Antidope-10; Sex rock, hip hop
MAC'S JC Rico & Zulu Dragon-9:30; Blues, soul
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-U's: Tim-9
OREGON WINE WAREHOUSE Steve Larson-6; Jazz piano
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon-Michael & Tony T-9; Country, rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S Natural Progression-9:30; Fusion
SHER'S ELDERADO Caught-in-the-Act Karaoke-9
TAP 'N' KEG DJ Isaac-9:30; Retro
TINY TAVERN Lucika, Special Edison, Marty S.-9; Variety
TRACKSTIRS Caught-in-the-Act Karaoke-9
VET'S CLUB DJ Mario Mora-9; Salsa
YUKON JACK'S The Survivors-9

SATURDAY DEC. 24

BELLY UP Dance Party w/ DJ Tekneek-8
CHARLIE MAC'S DJ Dance Night-9
CLUB TSUNAMI DJ Tekneek-10:30; Hip hop, R&B
DIABLO'S The Vinyl Pimpz-10; House
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EMBERS Michael Anderson Trio-9; Country, rock
EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE Stephan Mockli-7; Folk, jazz
JO FED'S Skip Jones Spirit of New Orleans-9
JOE'S Ladies' Night w/ VJ Trey-10; '70s, '80s, '90s

JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ VJ Ty-9:30; All-video Hip hop, R&B, 80s & more
JOHN HENRY'S 'Twas the Night Before Christmas w/ DJ Santa Claus-9
LONE STAR Caught-in-the-Act Karaoke-9
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-U's: Tim-9
OREGON WINE WAREHOUSE Larry Pattis-6
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon-Michael & Tony T-9; Country, rock, top 40
SAM'S PLACE Ladies' Night w/ DJ Laura
TAP 'N' KEG DJ Dana-9:30; Hip hop
YUKON JACK'S The Survivors-9

SUNDAY DEC. 25

BLACK FOREST Caught-in-the-Act Karaoke-9



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DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Texas Hold 'em-3;
 Handsome Dave's Handsome Karaoke-10
MULLIGAN'S Music jam/open mic w/ Keith
 Harrison
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-U's: Tim-9
TAYLOR'S Texas hold 'em-5:30
VILLAGE INN Open Mic-8

MONDAY DEC. 26

BLACK FOREST Caught-in-the-Act Karaoke-9

COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke with Kim-9
COZMIC PIZZA Rainy Day Blues
 Society meeting & blues jam-6:30
EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE Eric
 Morton-7; Classic '60s music
JOGGER'S Karaoke w/ DJ Bond-9:30
MC SHANE'S Micro Movie Monday-
 after Monday Night Football
OCTAVIO'S Karaoke
ROCK 'N' RODEO Kick'n Karaoke-9
TAYLOR'S DJ Tekneek & Friends

TUESDAY DEC. 27

BLUE LUNA Open Mic Night-8:30
CHARLIE MAC'S Acoustic Tuesdays
 w/ Niel Henderson
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke with Kim-9
COZMIC PIZZA Open Mic-7
DIABLO'S Talent Showcase Open Mic-
 8
GOOD TIMES Rooster's Blues Jam-8
JAXX Drummers' Lounge-8:30
JO FED'S Natural Progression-8:30
JOE'S Phat Tuesday w/ VJ Trey-10;
 Hip hop, R&B
JOGGER'S DJ Tekneek-10; Hip hop, R&B
LUCKEY'S C-4 Sound Complex-10; Hip hop
MAX'S The Poetry Show-9; Open mic
MC SHANE'S Tricycle Races-9
THE O BAR Caught-in-the-Act Karaoke-9
OCTAVIO'S Ingredients of Wollen
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-U's: Tim-9
PEABODY'S Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic vari-
 ety
PERUGINO Tango night w/ Andrew
 McCullough-7:30

QUACKERS Karaoke with Jon-Michael-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Tony T-10; Hip hop
SAM BOND'S Sam Bond's Bluegrass Jam-9
TAYLOR'S Karaoke
TINY TAVERN CD Club-7; Listen, share, discuss

WEDNESDAY DEC. 28

BADA BING'S Paul Biondi & Friends-7
BLUE LUNA Peter Giri & the Alliance Band-
 9:30; Blues, classic rock
CHARLIE MAC'S Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE DJ Jeff Richey-9; Hip hop &
 ladies' night
COZMIC PIZZA Flight to Rio, Ruckus-7; Rock
 dance
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Texas hold 'em-7
EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE Open Mic
 Acoustic Jam-6
FATHOMS Karaoke w/ Jared-9
JAXX Pub Quiz-7
JO FED'S Jon Fiori & Friends-8:30
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop,
 R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10;
 Reggae vs. hip hop
LUCKEY'S The Mustache Marauders-10
MAC'S Christie & McCallum-8
MULLIGAN'S Music jam/open mic w/ Keith
 Harrison
OCTAVIO'S Deacon Jack
PANDORA'S BOX Strip-e-oke-9
PERUGINO Irish jam-7:30; Celtic
QUACKERS Blues Jam-8:30
SAM BOND'S John Prine Tribute Night
SHER'S EL DORADO Karaoke w/ Luke-9
STACY'S COVERED BRIDGE Open Mic Night

w/Ron O'Keefe-8:30
TAP 'N' KEG Tricycle Races-9
TINY TAVERN DJ Secret Hippie's Punk Rock
 Jukebox-9

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FR Fred Senecal-8

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TH John Bliss Xtet-7:30
WE Johanna Beekman-7:30

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FR DJ Glitter-10:30; Smooth beats
WE Thriving Theatre!-9:30;
 Improv night

**PLATINUM NIGHT
CLUB**
 126 SW 4th
TH & SA DJ Hes-9
SU No Limit
 Texas Hold 'em
 Tournament-
 5:30
MO Karaoke
 night w/
 Patches-9
TU Ion w/ DJ
 Marc-9
WE No Limit
 Texas Hold 'em



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<p>EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT</p> <p>The Legendary Dance Party</p> <p>80's Night</p>	<p>NEW YEARS EVE PARTY AT 9 PM WITH</p> <p>REEBLE TAR</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY (1/6) CELEBRATION AT 7 PM WITH EUGENE'S PREMIER BIG BAND</p> <p>SWING SHIFT</p>
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Jazz Northwest

New CDs by Oregon jazzers

Eugene appears to be enjoying a resurgence in jazz programming, thanks especially to Luna and the new Jazz Station, not to mention standbys like Jo Federigo's. Several new recordings by Northwest jazz artists would make great gifts for jazz fans.

If the phenomenal saxophone virtuoso **Tom Bergeron** (who's played with everyone from Ella Fitzgerald to the Temptations to Third Angle) were leading ensembles in New York instead of enlightening students at Western Oregon University, he would no doubt be topping national critics' polls. As it is, we're lucky to have him playing at Luna often and issuing CDs on his own Oregon label, Teal Creek. He's just issued four albums by as many different ensembles, and all are worth hearing, or giving as gifts.

Exit is Bergeron's latest recording with Labirynth, a trio of fine Polish jazzers on violin, bass and drums and this time featuring a guest trumpeter. Fueled by propulsive drumming and, often, Eastern European rhythms, this band plays like the 1980s hard bop counterrevolution never happened, happily indulging in fusion textures that Weather Report and electric Miles fans will welcome.

Jobim Now co-stars guitarist **Gerry Hagberg** along with bassist **Mark Schneider** and drummer **Alan Tarpinian** in a disc of Antonio Carlos Jobim classics. Though they capture the warmth of the avatar of bossa nova's 1960s sounds, this quartet — unlike so many Jobim cover bands — refuses to wallow in syrup or cheese, instead refreshing it with a brisk Oregon breeziness. This is an ideal late-night album for fireside relaxation or romance.

Hagberg and Bergeron are joined by Oregon (the group and the state) bassist **Glen Moore**, pianist **Matt Cooper**, drummer **Graham Lear** and trombone master **Keller Coker** on *Clovis*, which features stylish original tunes composed by the band members. From ballads to blues to a tango, the disc teems with memorable hooks and melodies (particularly on Cooper's compositions and Bergeron's "Oregon Rhapsody"), appealing to jazzheads as well casual listeners, without ever descending into the mire of so-called "smooth jazz."

All four discs succeed on their own terms. But maybe the most consistently engaging is

Western Rebellion, which features Bergeron and Coker joined by a coterie of Portland jazz all-stars who've played with some of the biggest names in jazz and pop music: pianist **Gordon Lee**, guitarist **Christopher Woiwach**, bassist **Dan Schulte** and the great drummer **Mel Brown**. They comprise the resident jazztet at WOU, and their familiarity shows in the tight yet relaxed swing on a set of straight-ahead original compositions by the players. *Western Rebellion* is as strong an album of listener-friendly, contemporary jazz as I've heard this year.

Another Luna regular, Eugene's **Toby Koenigsberg** teaches at the UO and heads a sharp local trio. *Push*, his debut CD, documents a live performance at a New York club and features bassist **Ike Sturm**, drummer **Ted Poor** and busy New York saxman **Rich Perry** of the Maria Schneider Jazz Orchestra, Fred Hersch's bands and the

Vanguard Jazz Orchestra. The disc reveals Koenigsberg's assiduous study of jazz deities from Bud Powell to John Coltrane to Wayne Shorter, including covers of classics by the latter two along with a slew of Toby K's originals. Fans of classic jazz piano trios will enjoy this one, and we can look forward to his upcoming disk of Elliot Smith's music.

Speaking of piano jazz, anyone who remembers Tomas Stanko's transcendently beautiful concert at the Shedd last winter already knows how mesmerizing his CDs are. But it was a pleasant surprise to find that the gently atmospheric piano jazz of *Trio* (ECM) by his rhythm section of crack 20-something Polish jazz musicians (pianist Marcin Wasilewski, bassist Slawomir Kurkiewicz and drummer Michal Miskiewicz), was equally ethereal. Though not produced by Oregonians, it's one of the best jazz albums of the year.

Eugene percussion fans know UO music prof **Charles Dowd** as one of the world authorities on instruments that go bang and thump, and his protégé **Tracy Freeze** plays in local orchestras. *Snapshot Live!* (CPM/USA), their album of marimba and vibraphone duets recorded in concert at Gerlinger Lounge, shows the influence of Dowd's work with Bobby Hutcherson, Andrew Hill and other jazz greats. The duo's sensitive interplay and melodic nuance on Dowd originals, covers of well known tunes by Chick Corea, and more will especially appeal to fans of '70s jazz.

EW

A Close Shave

Barber of Seville intends to cut up audiences.

With multiple productions of classics like *Madame Butterfly*, *Rigoletto* and *Carmen* over the last two decades, there's no doubt Eugene Opera sticks to the classics. Maintaining that theme, *The Barber of Seville* will close out the year (but not the season) for the Eugene Opera, while "The World's Greatest City for the Arts and Outdoors" plays host for the fifth production of Gioacchino Rossini's comic opera since the 1978-1979 season.

Rossini's opera follows the exploits of Count Almaviva and his former servant Figaro as they use disguises and deception to woo the beautiful commoner Rosina before her impending marriage to the overbearing Dr. Bartolo. Figaro is the witty barber who advises the Count to disguise himself as a poor student, a drunken soldier and a substitute singing teacher in order to gain access to the woman he's fallen for but never met. No word yet on whether Eugeneans were the inspiration for the Count's disguises.

Rossini was a master at his craft, having composed nearly 40 operas in less than 20 years, and completing the score for *Barber* in only two weeks. One often-mentioned anecdote has him writing *Barber* at such a frenzied pace near a disregarded deadline that he didn't shave during its composition. Oh, sweet irony.

For those readers who've decided to read this article despite a limited familiarity with the grandeur of Rossini's career, there is a measure of success that will speak to you. *Barber* was parodied in both Woody Woodpecker and Bugs Bunny cartoons. "What's up, Doc Bartolo?" indeed.

Eugene Opera presents *The Barber of Seville* at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts 2:30 pm Friday, Dec. 30 and 7:30 pm Saturday, Dec. 31, with a New Year's Eve celebration to follow. Tickets are \$15-\$60 and are available at the Hult Center box office or online at www.hultcenter.org **EW**



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Bulletin Board

Announcements

DIVERSITY IN JOURNALISM. The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students, college seniors and up, for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University: Medill School of Journalism, the eight week program, June 18 through August 13, 2006, aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds to train them in magazine style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and a downloadable application, visit the web site at <http://www.aajjournalism.org>. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu Applications must be postmarked by February 10, 2006. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

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Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT of the State of Oregon, for the County of Lane. In the Matter of the Estate of Amy Louise Tressler, Deceased. Case No. 50-05-22496. Notice to Interested Persons. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them with vouchers attached to the undersigned personal representative at 320 North Main St., P.O. Box 457, Brownsville, Oregon, 97327, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative: Jonathan Tressler, at 320 North Main St., P.O. Box 457, Brownsville, Oregon 97327. 541-466-5777. Dated and first published, 8 December 2005, Jonathan Tressler, Personal Representative.

Lost & Found

FOUND: AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD, mostly black female. Distinctive markings on left paw. Corner of 13th and Polk. 342-3138.

LOST: KEYS. Area of 24th and Hilyard. Lost in the middle of the street. Call to describe. 343-3373.

LOST: LONG haired, dark male cat with light stripes, green eyes. "Big Brother." Lost off W. 18th in early Nov. 431-0481.

Meetings

MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS meets Wednesdays, 7:30-9pm. Saturdays 6:30-7:30pm. St. Mary's Episcopal Church 13th and Pearl. www.marijuana-anonymous.org

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Sudoku

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1								7
	7		5		6	8		
	4	3		7	2			
		9				7		
8				9				6
	3				4			
		7	6			8	3	
	5	6			9		4	
4								5

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number
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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Happy Holy Daze, Aries! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic item might inspire you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? And the answer is: "The Daughter of Jacob Meyer," one of Vincent van Gogh's first drawings. He did it when he was 27 years old. That's right: The celebrated painter didn't even begin his life's work until then, having failed in his careers as an art dealer and preacher. In recommending this as a present for you, I hope you'll be inspired to realize that no matter what you've done up until this point, the coming year will give you a chance to start fresh on a new quest – maybe even a calling that will sustain you for decades.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Happy Holy Daze, Taurus! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for you. What symbolic items might inspire you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? And the answer is: several full-length mirrors that you can arrange in such a way so as to study what you look like from behind and from the side as well as from the front. What's my reasoning? I believe you should get to know yourself much, much better in the coming months. You should gaze into your own mysteries far more frequently than you ever have before, and try to see yourself with as much compassionate objectivity as possible.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Happy Holy Daze, Gemini! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for you. What symbolic items might stimulate you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? The answer is: a lot of beautiful, comfortable shoes suitable for a variety of moods, from hiking to working to traveling to dancing. I recommend this dramatic upgrade in footwear because I think it would help drive home the single most important task you have ahead of you, which is to come all the way down to earth. This is the year you've got to become as well-grounded as you've ever dared to be.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Happy Holy Daze, Cancerian! I've decided that the best possible gift you could give yourself this holiday season is this: a promise that you will love yourself with more wild abandon, reverent devotion, and unpredictable ingenuity in 2006. If you agree with my idea, then I suggest you make formal pledge to do just that, preferably written out on a piece of paper and placed in a prominent place in your home. To carry out your vow, you might want to commit to a regular schedule of thoughtful gestures, like buying yourself a dozen roses or getting a massage twice a month – or handing yourself a compliment and putting yourself in the presence of awesome beauty once a day.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Happy Holy Daze, Leo! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for you. What symbolic items might stimulate you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? Here's my answer: a skateboard or snowboard or bongo board. If you developed your proficiency on one of these, you'd be cultivating the same capacity you should build in your psyche: really good balance. In the coming months, I hope you will become a master of maintaining your equilibrium, seeing all sides of every story, and taking the middle path between two extremes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Happy Holy Daze, Virgo! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for you. What symbolic offerings might inspire you to be in closest alignment with the cosmic currents in 2006? I've decided on a pair of binoculars, a microscope, and sunglasses with mirrors in the corner of each lens that allow you to gaze on the reflections of things behind you. These, I hope, would give you the message that you should try hard to see further, deeper, and more clearly; you should become more greedily eager to notice details you've been blind to in the past.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Happy Holy Daze, Libra! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for

you. What symbolic items might stimulate you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? The first thing that comes to mind is a bar of gold bullion or a stack of gold coins. It might stir up your financial imagination and motivate you to take aggressive steps to increase your income, which would be right in line with the scenario that the astrological omens suggest is possible. What might be even more effective, though, is a photo or image or drawing that captures the invigorating experiences you'll be able to buy yourself when you have more money.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Happy Holy Daze, Scorpio! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic offering might inspire you to be in closest alignment with the cosmic currents in 2006? I've decided on a magnesium firestarter, a metal tool with a striking rod that's guaranteed to kindle a flame even when conditions are wet. This would, I hope, send you the message that your job in the coming months is to be constantly ablaze – to ignite passions, burn down obstacles, and be a source of intense light and warmth and energy wherever you go.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Happy Holy Daze, Sagittarius! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What would best get you ready for 2006? What symbolic offering might motivate you to take maximum advantage of the astrological opportunities? And the answer is: the biggest, baddest vacuum cleaner ever made – a sleek, chic cleaning machine with turbocharged suction power, a hundred different attachments, and a very long reach. Such a gift would, I think, be an inspiring metaphor as you dive into the coming year's most important project: to purge every last bit of messiness and chaos and karmic dirt that have accumulated in your life during the last ten years.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Happy Holy Daze, Capricorn! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gifts for you. What items might inspire you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? And the answer is: anything that makes you laugh harder, deeper, faster, and more often. For me that would be something like DVDs by comedians Margaret Cho, Chris Rock, Dave Chappelle, and Sarah Silverman, but you might need different stimuli. The point is, you've got to significantly raise your Laugh Quotient in the coming months. The astrological omens say it's the only strategy that's guaranteed to make you an expert problem-solver, increase your intelligence, and keep you in peak health.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Happy Holy Daze, Aquarius! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What symbolic item might inspire you to take maximum advantage of the cosmic currents in 2006? I've decided it would be a fortune cookie inside of which was an oracle based on an old Sufi saying: "I was a hidden treasure and I longed to be known." This would serve as your motto and mantra in the coming months, a reminder that it's high time for you to come out of every closet, throw off all your disguises, and reveal the curious, beautiful truths about yourself. Even if you don't do that, I bet you'll still become better known in 2006; not necessarily famous, but certainly more accurately perceived and more deeply understood.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Happy Holy Daze, Pisces! I've been meditating on the perfect holiday gift for you. What would best get you ready for 2006? What symbolic offering might motivate you to take maximum advantage of the astrological opportunities ahead? And the answer is: a roundtrip plane ticket to the mysterious frontier or thrilling sanctuary or provocative paradise you've been fantasizing about off and on for a long time. Why? Because this is the year you really need to escape the insidious comforts that have been sapping your ability to be the brave dreamer you were born to be.

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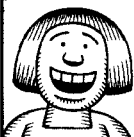
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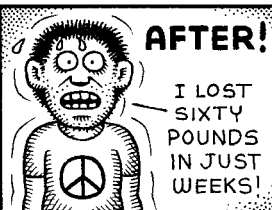
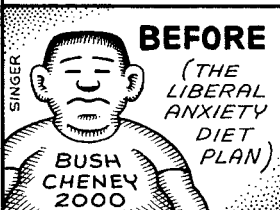
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- WILL HUGE REPUBLICAN DEFICITS TRIGGER AN ECONOMIC COLLAPSE?
- CAN OUR DECAYING PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM HANDLE A BIO-TERROR ATTACK?



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NEW YEARS Blowout! Sell your dirty habits in next week's issue for FREE! Call 484-0519 for details!

VERY LARGE room, quiet, clean, mature, balanced, much light, close, secluded, newer, NP, W/D. \$285/mo + share utils. 344-1964.

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THIS IS AN AD. It's going to be long, and you might finish reading it and then wonder why you bothered? But like all media, Eugene Weekly depends on advertising dollars such as those generated by ads like this. This isn't an apt comparison, since most ads have something to say. Here's the lesson ... Ads make the world go 'round. Patronize Eugene Weekly's advertisers and read Eugene Weekly. Thank you for another year.

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Abbreviations: A Asian • B Black • Bi Bisexual • C Couple • Ch Christian • D Divorced • F Female • G Gay • H Hispanic • HWP Height/ Weight proportionate • J Jewish • M Male • NA No alcohol • NAm Native American • ND No drugs • NS No smoking • P Professional • S Single • W White • Wi Widowed • ISO In search of • LTR Long-term relationship

Participants in *Eugene Weekly* Personals must be 18 years or older. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses. First meetings should occur in a public place and participants should not divulge addresses. *Eugene Weekly* does not screen or investigate individuals who place or respond to personals ads and makes no representation as to the character of these individuals. *Eugene Weekly* will not be responsible for the consequences of any interaction. Not all voice boxes contain voice greetings.

BRUISED AND BATTERED

I saw you scuffing, scraping, heating, cooling on our very own helipad. I hope I can catch a ride. P.S. Happy Thursday. ☎ 7117

SHANNON FROM SOCAL

We met at John Henry's on Thursday night. You didn't have you ID. I gave you a ride home. You called later but left no return phone number. Let's meet, Sal. ☎ 7126

BLONDE ELVIS

You, looking like blonde Elvis. Mutton chops, lip ring, very handsome! I saw you fixing the door, chopping wood and building a fire. You're my hero! Play pool? I love you! ☎ 7127

AT PC DELTA

You were ejaculating profanity claiming that there is no blood in red wine. You have proven yourself both vulgar and a fool. Fining agents include blood and gelatin, hoofs. ☎ 7130

AMAZON DOG PARK

We've made eye contact a few times. Each time it gets more intense. Come to the Alpaca show with me. I like you a lot. ☎ 7132

ZACHARY J.

Grandpa Pete failing fast, Glen and I going there for Christmas. Really would like you to come, our dollars. Contact Mom or Dad, ASAP, collect if need be. - Mom.

HIGH STREET

You, a pretty blonde girl. We caught eyes and exchanged smiles. Actually, I'm not sure if I smiled back. I'm sorta shy. Anyway, I just wanted to say hi. ☎ 7136

TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

Copyshop blonde. I know not why we live so far apart. Being on the planet with you at the same time is a relief to say the least. Thanks for making my cheeks hurt from smiling so much! See you on the 15th for dinner and a movie? ☎ 7138

LIBRA V MY EQUAL

I saw you in my life, my best friend forever. But after 5 years it's over? Is this how you want it to end? I love you! Please forgive me? Can we just talk? ☎ 7166

JH'S REGGAE NIGHT

12/7, John Henry's center of the dance floor. You caught my eye walking in, I caught yours while dancing. Waved over to dance with you but your friend was a godsend. Brown and orange jacket. ☎ 7172

STAIRWAY TO ME

You stood dancing by yourself at Quackers door last Saturday night in dark blue hoodie. I wouldn't deny you anything. ☎ 7173

BUS PROJECT

I saw you at the Peepshow last Tuesday. We smiled. I hope to see you at next month's.

CORVALLIS

You, a beard and warm smile at 5th and Madison. Me, in a bright orange cap with my sweet pooch. I'll be in your dream if you'll be in mine. ☎ 7176

SCREW THA BUCKET

The gleam of your Monroe caught my eye. Lick those lips, move them thighs, you got yourself a fan. Keep up the hot stuff, hottie. Sassafrasquach up the yin-yang. ☎ 7177

QUEEN PRISCILLA

In your ruby slippers, catching the eye of Elvis and singing a happy tune. Je t'aime mes aime, you are a treasure! ☎ 7182

BORDER'S BOOKS

Wednesday eve, 12/14. You: Sitting in magazine section, me reading Town and Country horoscope with friend on crutches. You smiled at me, I smiled back. Meet and talk? ☎ 7186

I'M A LUCKY GIRL

We met my first day in town, on a rainy Thursday night over a rum and Coke. You know what's my favorite thing about pool? The fact that it brought us together. You are the most lovable person I know.



ZACHARY J.

Grandpa Pete failing fast, Glen and I going there for Christmas. Really would like you to come, our dollars. Contact Mom or Dad, ASAP, collect if need be. - Mom.



I NEED SOME FRIENDS

Desperately seeking someone who would actually enjoy discussing the ins and outs of Linux with a relative noob over a few beers. ☎ 7072

CATCH OF THE WEEK:

A DESPERATE MAN

I am an 18 yo man seeking sex and LTR with a hot women in her 20s or 30s who has 32DD size breasts and a shaved private and has a house of her own and a car to drive. ☎ 7058

SPRING VISIT

My wife and I are planning a trip in April or May to come to Eugene from St. Louis. Wondering if any kind person or people might have a backyard to crash. ☎ 7076

MUSICAL-SPIRITUAL

My name is Jules. I am new in this area and need friends, both male and female. Common interests, music, musicians, harmony in friends of God and the angels. ☎ 7133

SEEKING GOOD FRIENDS

Good friend seeking new, casual good friends, M or F, in the 50's age range. Enjoy casual dining, variety shopping, movies, music. Please no tobacco smokers. Other vices okay. ☎ 7137



MATURE HANDSPANKER

Mature guy 70, Portland, spansk OTK, bare guys under 35, under 5'9" under 150. Stats must be met. ☎ 7051

DOMINA LOOKING FOR NEW TOYS

Seeking sissy boys, cash piggies and pathetic slaves. I'm Domina. I get a kick out of humiliating pathetic faggots while raping there wallets and robbing them of any last shred of self respect they may have left. I'm looking for new toys to play with in mind control. Serious slaves only. ☎ 7069

SENSUAL TEACHER

Physically fit good looking male ISO of mature woman, 30-45, for lessons in the art of tantric sex. Curious. Must send picture. LTR is a possibility but not required. ☎ 7077

BACK IN THE SADDLE

The Roan Ranger and her cross dressing sidekick Pinto seek cowboy, 43+, who can stay past 8 sec. in the saddle. Both saddles broke, so be willing to ride both. No spurs. ☎ 7083

SEEKING FWB

Yep. Seeking female friends with benefits. I really need a hormone boost. And I am generous. I might even qualify as a "Sugar Daddy," maybe. But! Then are you that "Sugar Momma" I seek? ☎ 7098

ISO SUGAR MOMMA

SWM, 21, very attractive, athletic college male looking for sugar momma of any age for shopping trips, dinners, whatever. I will return the favor many, many times over. ☎ 7125

WILLING FOR ANYTHING

SWM interested in F or BiM, FC for adult clean fun. I am SM, fit and attractive. Very uninhibited and willing for anything. ☎ 7100

SOFT HANDS

SWPM, 40s, well groomed, athletic, gentle to provide massage or intimate massage. ISO active playful woman with spirit and brains for discrete adventure. So much learning and life in touch. ☎ 7101

A FANTASY

I am a fit younger male. Educated and secure. I am looking for two older professional females who may be interested in sharing some very discreet sexual encounters. ☎ 7103

ISO CLEAN COUPLE

ISO clean couple, 29-39, with very sexy clean shaven wife and nicely hung husband who want to play part time with a very handsome man 180 lbs, 6'. ☎ 7105

ISO DOMINATRIX

Professional couple, alpha female, sub. male. ISO divinely dominant goddess to enrich our adventurous relationship with tales and tastes of torment. Discretion and limits always a first. Are you hungry? ☎ 7109

IN THE LIFESTYLE

Are you in the lifestyle? Are you 45 or older? Are you clean, discreet and generally a nice person? Wanna party? If so, then check us out! ☎ 7110

THIS ONE'S GOOD

Would love to find a tall or bigger girl for fun, sensual friendship. With those gorgeous long or voluptuous or muscular legs. High heels, erotic, sexual play. Very handsome, single, romantic, erotic guy. Great cook and love giving massages. ☎ 7139

IN SEARCH OF

SWM 27, ISO desperate housewife or MILF in need of sexual release, 35-50. STD and drug free. I am discreet and respectful. ☎ 7121

THREE'S COMPANY?

White M, Latina F in late 20s seeking same age Bif, properly groomed, for fun and delightful new experiences. No strings attached. Mr. Roper's on vacation! ☎ 7122

HOLIDAYS ALONE

Again, SWF, ISO someone special to share them with, for friendship. I'm special, rare, and one of a kind. Dreams can be better than what we can ever imagine. ☎ 7129

SUGAR MOMMA WANTED

Very handsome, extremely sexy, drug and disease free, mid twenties love machine. Clean, tan, smooth, very well equipped, nice smile, awesome body. Let's have some fun. ☎ 7169

BI CURIOUS FANTASY

The hottest cross dressing beauty anywhere. 23 yo, 5'6, amazing body. Looking for discreet, safe fun with curious young hottie. Role reversal? May consider young couple? Must be disease free like me. ☎ 7171



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